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STATION BULLETIN 256

NOVEMBER, 1929

# Use of Time by Oregon Farm Homemakers



Agricultural Experiment Station  
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CORVALLIS

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## THE FARM HOMEMAKER

Homemakers constitute the largest occupation group in the population. Of farm homes alone there are more than six million in the United States, each of which requires the major part of the working time of at least one adult.

\* \* \*

The 288 farm homemakers who cooperated in this study worked an average of 63.7 hours per week. Of this time 81 percent was given to household needs and 18 percent to farm work.

\* \* \*

The homemaker's work day and its distribution and her use of personal time vary with the size and composition of the household and with the season.

\* \* \*

Distribution of homemaking time varies with the equipment of the house and with the use made of commercial services.

\* \* \*

Farm homemakers work longer hours than those in town chiefly because of the work outside the home. Differences in the use of homemaking time can be traced to differences in paid help, equipment of house, and use of commercial services.

\* \* \*

Better use of time by farm homemakers will come through increased farm income, development of utilities in rural districts, and extension of training for homemaking.





## SUMMARY

### OBJECTS AND METHODS

1. This is a study of the use of time by farm homemakers in Oregon during weeks of normal activity, factors that affect this distribution, and differences between farm homemakers and those who do not live on farms.

2. The study was undertaken because of the social and economic importance of homemakers as an occupation group, and the relation between the time distribution of the homemaker and the family standard of living.

3. Data were obtained from 288 farm homemakers, 71 country non-farm homemakers, and 154 non-country non-farm homemakers, a total of 513 records.

### HOW FARM HOMEMAKERS USE THEIR TIME

4. The average work period of the farm homemaker was 63.7 hours per week, divided as follows: homemaking, 81 percent; farm work, 18 percent; other work, 1 percent. For 9 percent of the homemakers the work period was less than 50 hours; for 14 percent it was 75 hours or more. The average work day was 9.7 hours on week days and 5.5 hours on Sundays.

5. The 51.6 hours per week devoted to homemaking activities were distributed as follows: food activities, 47 percent; house, 18 percent; clothing and textiles, 22 percent; care of members of household, 7 percent; management, 3 percent; all other, 2 percent. Seventy-two percent of the homemaking time went to the routine activities of the household—meals, cleaning, fires, laundry, and mending.

6. Farm homemakers worked longer than non-farm homemakers, mainly because of their farm work in addition to their homemaking. Ninety-seven percent of them did some farm work, the average amount being 11.3 hours a week. The three farm enterprises to which the most time was devoted were dairying, poultry, and fruits and vegetables.

7. The farm homemaker had an average of 102.7 hours of personal time per week, divided as follows: sleep and rest, 61 percent; physical care of self, 14 percent; leisure activities, 23 percent; other activities 2 percent. With work periods of varying length there was a marked difference in amount of leisure time, but time for sleep and rest and physical care of self remained fairly constant.

8. Reading and informal social life were of about equal importance as leisure activities and together accounted for more than half of the leisure time of the average farm homemaker. Leisure activities carried on away from home and apart from one's family, aside from informal social life, were comparatively unimportant.

### HELP RECEIVED

9. Farm homemakers received an average of 9.5 hours a week of help in their household duties, half of it being that of children. The amount of paid help was negligible.

## SUMMARY (Continued)

### FACTORS AFFECTING THE USE OF TIME BY HOMEMAKERS

10. Differences in household requirements which were a consequence of differences in ages of children or number of persons served were associated with variations in length as well as distribution of work periods of homemakers. Farm cooperators with no children averaged 60.5 hours at work, 26 percent of it in work other than homemaking. Those with children under one year worked 77.3 hours, of which 11 percent was in outside work.

11. Time given by homemakers to the care of a child under a year old was three times that given to a child between one and six, and twelve times that given to a child of grade-school age.

12. With respect to the number of persons in the household the time spent by the homemaker in meal preparation varied more than that of any other activity. For farm households of two to three persons it was 13.6 hours; for seven to eight persons, 18.7 hours.

13. Seasonal variations in farm work were chiefly accountable for seasonal variations in the work period. The peak load was in midsummer, with a secondary peak at Christmas holiday time.

14. Of the farm homemakers 43 percent had neither modern plumbing nor electricity, while 19 percent had both. Those with both water and electricity spent 3 hours a week less upon meals, cleaning, and washing than those without these utilities.

15. Comparing homemakers as to amount of schooling, those with more schooling devoted more time to the care of their children and more of their leisure time to meetings and study and to work for organizations.

16. Time not needed for the essentials of homemaking was used by farm homemakers either in doing more farm work or in giving more attention to the "higher life" aspects of homemaking.

17. Farm and non-farm homemakers followed the same time-pattern in caring for household needs. Differences in amount and distribution of homemaking time were slight. When differences in equipment of houses and use of commercial services were allowed for, remaining differences were negligible.

### CAN THE USE OF TIME BY HOMEMAKERS BE IMPROVED?

18. Farm homemakers desire the same type of living as those not on farms. Increases in farm income, the development of utilities in rural districts, changes in farm operations, and the extension of training for homemaking will wipe out present differences in time distribution or in the product of the homemaker's labor.



# Use of Time by Oregon Farm Homemakers

By

MAUD WILSON

## PROBLEMS OF THE HOME MANAGER

Homemakers constitute the largest occupation group in the population. Of farm homes alone there are more than six million in the United States, and each of them requires the major part of the working time of at least one adult. Success in homemaking, as in any other occupation, depends largely on the manner in which time given to it is used.

There is a disposition among all classes of people to give up customary ways of spending time and to assign time values to the activities of work and leisure. When the homemaker does this, the quality of family living as well as her own welfare are involved.

The concern of the home economist is a dual one—that the result of the labor of the homemaker shall come up to the specifications set by science and art and the demands of citizenship; and that the homemaker shall find her job as interesting and healthful and stimulating as any other occupation open to her. If the homemaking of today is to be “unhampered by the traditions of the past,” prospective homemakers must be taught to assign time values to all activities suggested for the homemaker by tradition, custom, or science.

**Nature of the homemaker's job.** The homemaker has many advantages that most other workers do not have—an elastic working schedule, easily adjusted to meet emergencies and personal convenience or preference; variety in her work; and most important of all, personal interest in the product of her labor.

Certain unfavorable conditions of labor are common—indoor life; heavy physical labor; inability to shift responsibility to others when one's state of health demands it; mental and physical fatigue from constant interruptions, emergencies, and diversity of detail; difficulty of maintaining a work schedule because the desires and needs of various members of the family take precedence over those of the homemaker, and because many operations must be carried on simultaneously; lack of “free” leisure; lack of rest periods at times most needed.

The prevalence of some of these unfavorable conditions is an indicator of the degree of efficiency of the average homemaker and shows where emphasis should be placed in our household management teaching.

**Effect of changing social and economic conditions.** The nature and content of the homemaker's job is rapidly changing. The number of processes carried on in the household is decreasing with the growth of commercial services and community utilities. The number of persons in the household has decreased with the development of commercial methods of

caring for the traveling public and with changes in industry which removed her husband's employees from her household. School or work calls children from home sooner.

Her responsibilities have been increased in some respects. Available help is scarcer than it used to be. Daughters and relatives without homes of their own are working for wages. Hired labor is no longer available for most farm housewives. The effect of recent extension of knowledge regarding child care and training, nutrition, and the like, has been to add to the responsibilities and to increase time demands upon the homemaker.

The effect of changes in the status of women has been to multiply the homemaker's outside interests and to increase possibilities for the productive use of leisure.

The increase in living standards enjoyed by members of other occupations has had the effect of increasing the desired standard among farm people. The width of the gap is in a sense a measure of the farm homemaker's problem. She cannot usually have the full benefit of modern facilities for cutting time costs in the household. She is more apt to give part of her working time to adding to family income.

## OBJECTS AND METHODS OF THIS STUDY

This study of Present Use of Time by Farm Homemakers is intended to give to homemakers, home economists, and students of social and economic conditions some of the information needed for an understanding of the homemaker's problem and for a basis for judgment as to what changes are desirable and how they may be brought about. It is a part of the movement to enrich family life.

**Major points of interest.** The major points of interest in this study are the following:

1. The habits of living in any group of similar racial, religious, and occupational make-up are known to be similar. A "habit of living" for the family implies a "habit of work" for the homemaker. Rural people in Oregon comprise such a group. What habits of time-spending prevail among the homemakers of this group?

2. Within the group there are differences among individuals—in age, schooling, etc. What modifications of habit are associated with these differences?

3. The normal housekeeping career is a cycle, beginning and ending with a two-person, no-child household. We need to plot this cycle.

4. Each year is a minor cycle in the life of the homemaker. We need to know the extent of these calendar changes.

5. Some houses are better equipped than others. What advantage to the well equipped?

6. Some families employ more help than others. How does this affect the homemaker?

7. Some homemakers patronize commercial services, such as public laundries, bakeries, and ready-to-wear clothing stores, more than others. What differences in time distribution are noted?

8. What is the extent of the variation due to individual preferences and combinations of circumstances?

9. In what respects and to what extent does the time spending of farm homemakers differ from that of non-farm homemakers?

10. How is time used which is not needed for the household?

**Cooperation of bureau of home economics.** The study is being carried on in cooperation with the Bureau of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture. The record blanks, classification form, and rules for classification are those used by the Bureau in its study of Use of Time by Homemaker (Appendix B).

**Nature of records.** Each cooperator was asked to submit a record of a "typical" week, one in which homemaking routine was not broken by unusual circumstances. It was left to each one to determine whether the time demands of her household during a particular week were typical or not.

Each cooperator submitted a diary of her own activities, a record of the help she had in homemaking during the period covered by her diary, and some supplementary information concerning major factors influencing time distribution. Records were obtained in 1926 and 1927.

**How records were obtained.** In soliciting cooperation in keeping records of time expenditure for use in this study, the aim was to obtain a representative rural group. Accordingly, representative rural communities were selected, and in almost every case homemakers were approached through the medium of a local organization including most of the women of the neighborhood in its membership. Eighty-six percent of the records from country homemakers were obtained in this way.

Thirty-three percent of the rural homemakers with whom contacts were made at these meetings submitted usable reports. The remaining 67 percent comprised not only those who lacked interest or initiative but also those who felt that their circumstances were such that they could not hope for a "typical" week for some time to come. It also included many who were working under such physical or mental strain that they shrank from adding to their burdens by contracting to keep the record. Summer records were especially difficult to obtain.

Our experience in securing cooperators suggests that, in order to gain a well-balanced concept of the time element in homemaking, two further studies are needed to supplement this one:

1. The "non-typical" week in homemaking.
2. The "burdened" housewife.

Records were also obtained from homemakers not living in the country, but of the same general living standards, in order that we might be able to note the influence of the location of the home, or the occupation of farming, on the time distribution of homemakers.

**Cooperators and their households.\*** Farm homemakers are represented by 288 cooperators, country non-farm by 71, and non-country non-farm

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\*See Appendix A. Tables XVII - XXIII.



by 154. Records from those who farm but live in town were not included in the analysis; the term "farm homemaker" in this study refers to the homemaker who lives in the country and whose chief source of livelihood is a farm. Non-country non-farm cooperators do not include apartment dwellers.

Most of our farm cooperators lived in the Willamette Valley, although other parts of the state were included. All types of farms are represented.

Ninety-five percent of the farm group are native-born; 65 percent have had some schooling beyond 8th grade, and 16 percent beyond high school; more than three-fourths had done some work for pay; they averaged 18 years of experience as homemakers.

Their households averaged 4.17 persons, of which 3.87 were members of the family. About one-fifth had farm help for meals and 14 percent lodged farm help. Eight percent had boarders. Thirty-one percent had no children (persons under 19); 3 percent of the children were under one year of age, 23 percent between 1 and 5, and 58 percent of grade-school age.

Eighty percent of the farm group owned their homes. Houses averaged six rooms. Seven percent had furnaces; 32 percent used some kitchen fuel in addition to, or other than, wood or coal. Sixty-three percent were partly or completely equipped as to water supply and sewage disposal. Electricity was used for lighting by 28 percent. Twenty-five percent had power washing machines and 8 percent had power sewing machines. Twenty-three percent had vacuum cleaners.

Only 6 out of the 288 farm cooperators had any paid help during the weeks studied.

Cooperators living in the country but not on farms and those not living in the country represent the parts of the state and the nationalities in the population, much as do farm cooperators. Their households were slightly larger than those of the farm group; there were fewer families with no children; they differed somewhat as to ages of children, the non-country non-farm homemakers having more children of preschool age.

Of the non-country non-farm group 19 percent had some paid help; 90 percent had both electricity and modern plumbing in their houses; 82 percent baked no bread; more meals were eaten away from home, and more use was made of public laundries than in the country.

Country non-farm homemakers are the intermediate group; their houses are somewhat better equipped, and they used commercial services to a greater extent than farm women, although they had no more paid help.

## HOW FARM HOMEMAKERS USE THEIR TIME

An average of more than 99 percent of the 168 hours recorded by each cooperator was classified as work or personal time, according to what seemed to be the primary motive or aspect of each activity.

### HOURS ON THE JOB

**The weekly work period.** Activities classed as work averaged almost 64 hours per week with farm homemakers. Individual amounts ranged from  $28\frac{1}{2}$  to  $91\frac{1}{3}$  hours (Table XXIV). Two comments on the nature of the homemaker's job are obvious: homemaking ranges from a half-time to a double-time job; the average work period for homemakers is higher than that for women in other vocations.

In considering the possible relation of the length of the work period to the welfare of the homemaker herself, it is essential to inquire into the nature of the job. That is done in subsequent sections, but we note in Fig. 1 that 19 percent was other work than homemaking, generally out of doors or away from home. The employed woman pieces out her work day with at-home jobs, and time required to go to and from work is often considerable. Homemakers and women in other vocations may not differ greatly as to the net time available for rest and leisure activities.



Fig. 1. Four-fifths of the farm homemaker's working time is given to household needs.

Another consideration is the freedom of the homemaker in determining the length of her work period. Certain aspects of homemaking are carried on primarily because the homemaker enjoys doing them; that is, they are ways of using leisure, so far as her motive in undertaking them is concerned. Certain others are included in her schedule because there is available no alternative use of her time which would yield more pleasure or personal profit. She is not free of homemaking responsibility when her work is done, so that incentive for "speeding up" is absent.

A final point to bear in mind is that this is a study of “typical,” or “normal” weeks. In the average home there are many situations which compel the homemaker for the time being to disturb the routine of family living or to minimize her homemaking function. Chief among these situations are the care of members of the family when they are ill and contributing to the farm enterprise at times when added help cannot be obtained to meet added demands on the farm. We do not know whether the homemaker tends to lengthen her work day when she is living through a non-typical situation or not. Nor do we know how many weeks of the year for the average homemaker are non-typical weeks.

Work periods were longer for farm than for non-country non-farm homemakers. Country non-farm homemakers occupied an intermediate position. The difference is mainly in the amount of work other than homemaking, which consumed 19 percent of the work time of the farm, 10 percent of that of the country non-farm and only 6 percent of that of the non-country non-farm group (Fig. 2). When differences in the make-up of households are considered farm homemakers averaged two hours a week more time in their homemaking than the non-country non-farm group.

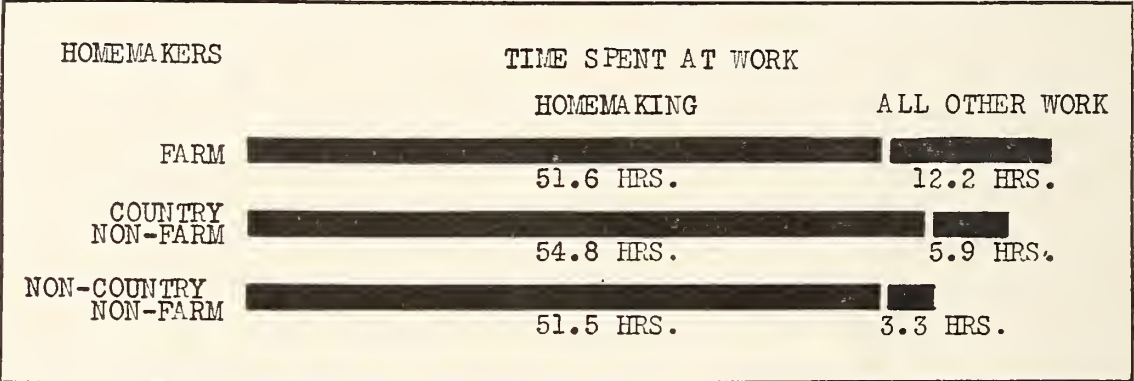


Fig. 2. Farm homemakers work longer than those not on farms, but they give about the same time to their households.

**The average work day.** The ratio of Sunday to week-day hours of work is 1 to 1.76. That is, taking her average week day as a standard, the work week of the average farm homemaker consists of a little more than 6½ work days (Table I).

It is common practice among homemakers to omit from the Sunday schedule weekly tasks, such as laundry or sewing; occasional ones, such as extra cleaning; and as much of the daily routine as possible. This may not be done where a motive is lacking. Possibilities for the use of leisure are often limited and tasks demanding the homemaker’s attention are always in evidence. Her Sunday work day is as long as it is, partly because the homemaker cannot usually get away from the scene of her vocational activities.

TABLE I. THE WORK DAY OF FARM HOMEMAKERS

Time divisions	Time spent by homemaker		
	Group average for Sunday	Group average for week days	Group average for a 7-day week
	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.
All work .....	5-30	9-42	9-06
Homemaking .....	4-26	7-51	7-21
Farm work .....	1-03	1-42	1-37
Other work .....	-01	-09	-08



Variation in work period. In Fig. 3 farm homemakers are grouped with respect to time spent at work during the week. The largest group are those who worked from 60 to 65 hours. The work period was between 50 and 75 hours for 76.7 percent of our farm cooperators (Table XXV).

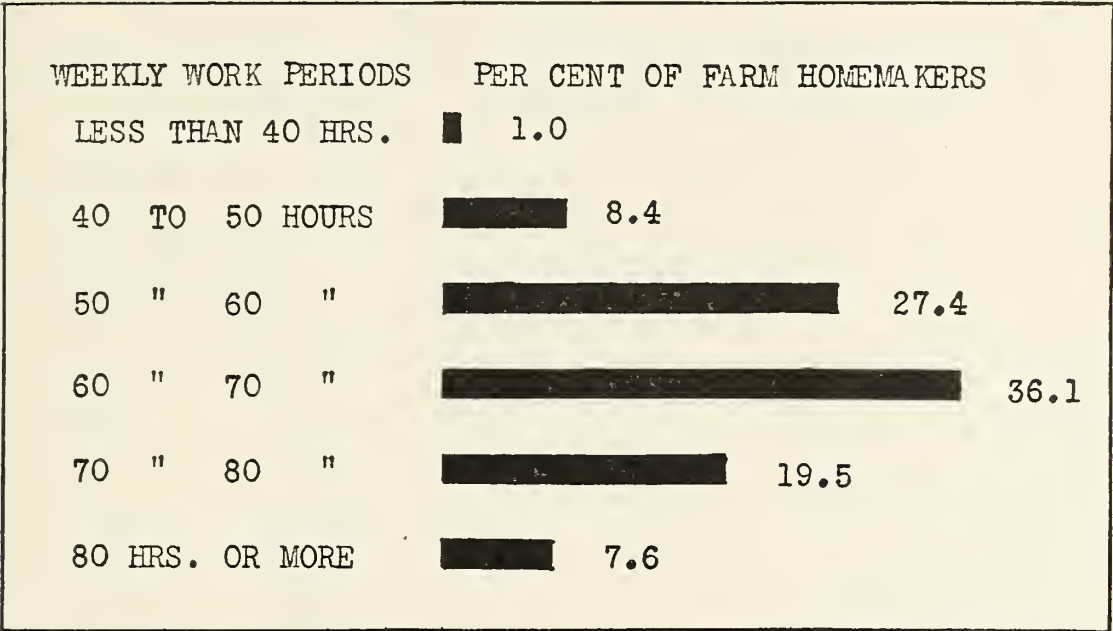


Fig. 3. Ninety percent of our farm cooperators worked 50 hours or more.

Long work days were more apt to be due to farm work than to home-making. Only 8 percent of the 40-to-45-hour work weeks went to farm activities. Those who worked 75 to 80 hours spent 24 percent of the total in farm work (Fig. 4 and Table XXVI).

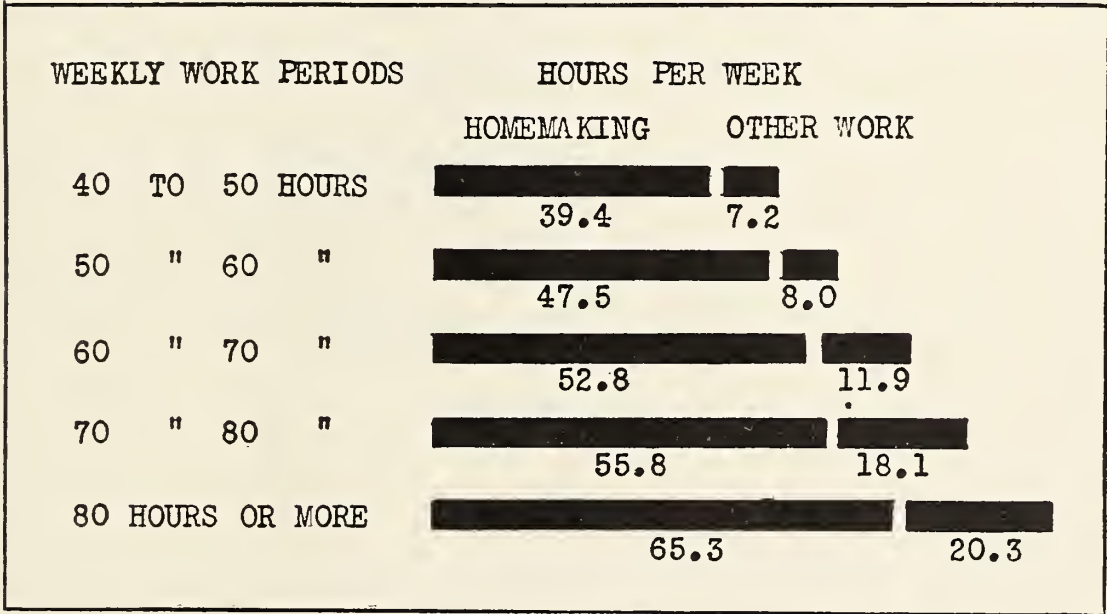


Fig. 4. Long work periods are less often the result of homemaking demands than of other work done.

THE HOMEMAKER'S CONTRIBUTION TO HER HOUSEHOLD

**Major divisions of homemaking time.** Homemaking activities have been grouped as far as possible under six heads—food, house, clothing and textiles, care of members of household, management of household, and going and returning on household business.

Feeding, housing, and clothing together accounted for seven-eighths of the time the average farm homemaker gave to her household. Food activities alone required almost half of it (Table II).

TABLE II. MAJOR DIVISIONS OF TIME GIVEN BY FARM HOMEMAKERS TO THEIR HOUSEHOLDS

Activity	Homemakers spending some time	Time spent per week		Proportion of time spent in all home- making activities
		Group average	Highest amount	
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%
1. Food .....	100.0	24-27	47-25	47.4
2. House .....	100.0	9-09	26-25	17.8
3. Clothing and textiles .....	99.7	11-21	33-35	22.0
4. Total for food, house, cloth- ing and textiles (1+2+3) .....	.....	44-57	.....	87.2
5. Care of members of house- hold .....	65.3	3-49	32-25	7.4
6. Management of household .....	89.6	1-39	7-50	3.2
7. Other homemaking activi- ties .....	26.0	-10	4-05	0.3
8. Not specified homemaking activities .....	25.3	-15	8-40	0.5
9. Going and returning .....	68.7	-44	4-40	1.4
10. Housework routine* .....	.....	37-04	.....	71.9

\*Meals, daily and weekly cleaning and straightening, care of fires, laundry and mending.

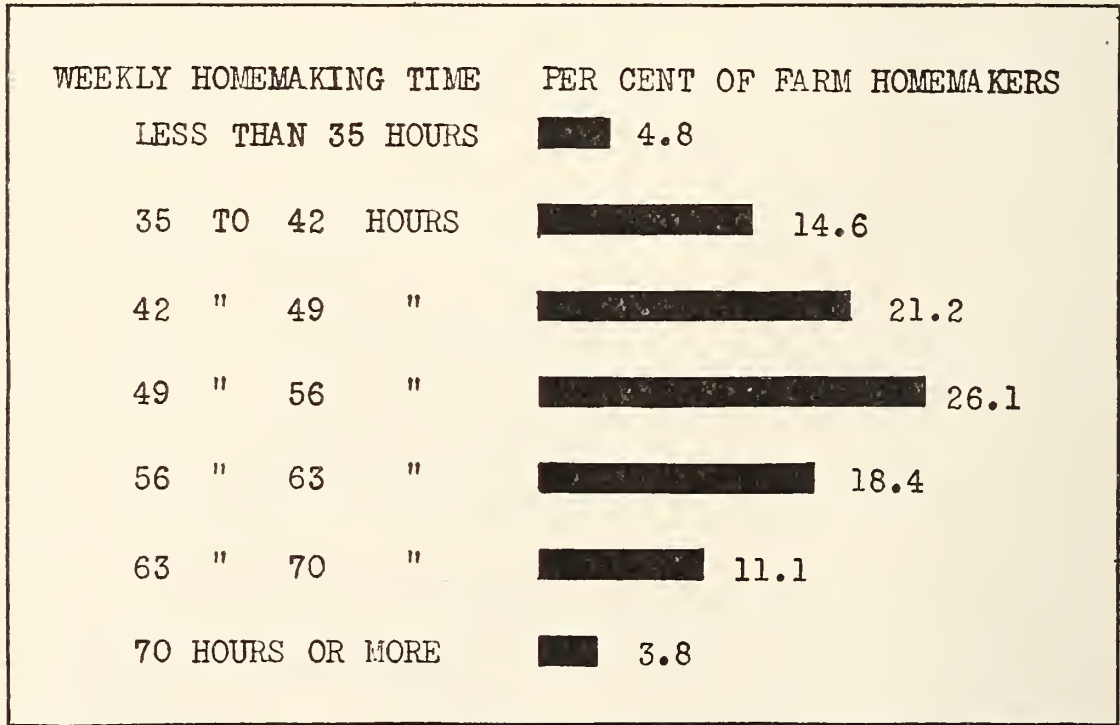


Fig. 5. Eighty-five percent of our farm cooperators contributed 35 hours a week or more to household needs.

**Variation in time given to homemaking.** The average farm homemaker devoted to the needs of her household the equivalent of 6½ eight-hour days



per week. Individual amounts varied from less than half of this amount to 1.7 times as much (Table XXIV). Within this range are illustrated the effects of conditions of labor as well as of vocational habits and individual preferences (Fig. 5).

Care of members of the household was responsible for the larger amounts of homemaking time, to a greater extent than any other group of activities. Food and house activities increased in amount of time spent but decreased in the proportion of homemaking time given to them. Clothing-and-textile time increased enough to increase the proportion slightly (Fig. 6 and Table XXVII).

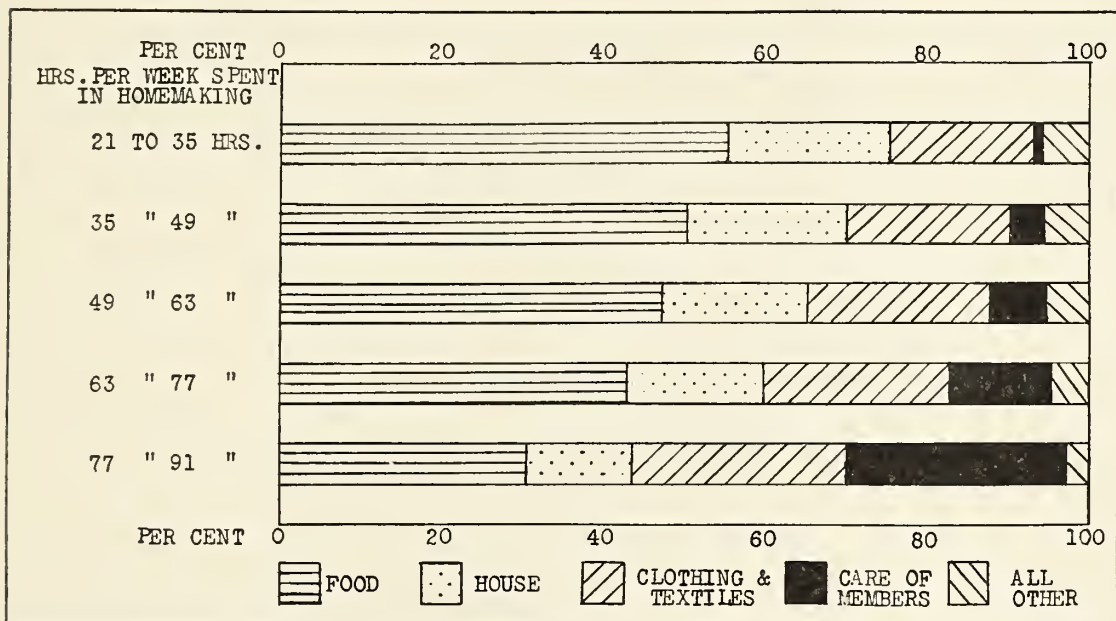


Fig. 6. Time given to care of members of the household was the chief reason for long hours spent in homemaking.

The main difference between farm and non-farm homemakers with respect to the major divisions of homemaking is in the time given to food activities, which was about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours a week more with the farm group. Non-farm homemakers spent a little more time in care of members of the household and in its management.

**Specific homemaking activities.\*** Food preparation was the most important food activity, requiring about twice as much time as clearing away food and washing dishes. About one-fifth of the food-preparation time was for food not prepared for use at any one meal.

Cleaning accounted for 74 percent and care of fires 10 percent of the time amounts included under house activities. Only 20 percent of the farm homemakers reported any time spent in carrying water.

Clothing-and-textile activities are usually not of daily recurrence and are fitted into the week's schedule. Washing takes one half-day; ironing and mending a second, and sewing a third. Fancy work is essentially a recreational activity, although the end product consists of articles of wearing apparel or house furnishings. Eighty-two percent of the homemakers

\*Tables XXVIII - XXXII.

did some mending during the week, 71 percent some sewing, and 29 percent some fancy work.

Care of members of the household was virtually care of children. Between 70 and 75 percent of this time went to their physical care.

Purchasing for the household was the most important managerial activity, accounting for 60 percent of the time given to the management of the household. Forty-four percent of the cooperators did some food purchasing, and 57 percent did other purchasing. Fourteen percent did some work during the week on household accounts.

Fifty-three percent of the time given to homemaking by the average farm homemaker was spent in activities which occur daily. When the three main routine activities of weekly occurrence—washing, ironing, and mending—are added to the total for daily routine, the combined activities accounted for 72 percent of the time given to homemaking by the average farm homemaker—about 37 hours a week. Following are averages per day (seven-day week) for farm homemakers for meals and cleaning.

Preparing breakfast .....	28 min.
Clearing away breakfast .....	24 min.
Preparing dinner .....	50 min.
Clearing away dinner .....	22 min.
Preparing lunch or supper .....	33 min.
Clearing away lunch or supper .....	18 min.
Preparing all three meals .....	1 hr., 51 min.
Clearing away all three meals .....	1 hr., 4 min.
Daily total for meals .....	2 hrs., 55 min.
Cleaning and straightening house .....	53 min.
Daily total for these activities .....	3 hrs., 48 min.

Farm homemakers differed little from those of the non-farm group in time given to the various homemaking activities.

## FARM WORK

The main point of difference in the work schedules of farm and non-farm homemakers was in the extent to which they included non-homemaking activities. Ninety-seven percent of our farm cooperators spent some time in farm work during the weeks recorded, averaging more than 11 hours per week. Other non-homemaking activities were of minor importance. The term "farm work" includes all activities incident to the production of commodities ordinarily considered farm products, whether for home use or for sale, and disregards the place where the work was done.

About three-fourths of the country non-farm and two-fifths of the non-country non-farm group spent some time in doing farm work. The average time spent by country non-farm homemakers who spent any time at all was 5.3 hours; that spent by non-country non-farm homemakers was 3.8 hours.

**Major farm activities.** Fruit and vegetable raising, poultry, and dairy work accounted for 85 percent of the farm work done by farm homemakers. Poultry and dairy were of about equal importance, with horticultural activities slightly less (Table III).

TABLE III. MAJOR FARM ACTIVITIES\*

Kind of farm work	—Proportion of all time spent in farm work—					
	Farm home-		Country non-farm		Non-country	
	makers		homemakers		non-farm	homemakers
	%	rank	%	rank	%	rank
Fruits and vegetables .....	22.4	3	24.7	3	55.8	1
Poultry .....	30.7	2	38.5	1	21.1	2
Dairy .....	32.0	1	26.4	2	13.7	3
All others .....	14.9		10.4		9.4	
	100.0		100.0		100.0	

\*For additional data see Table XXXIII.

**Variation in farm work.** Not many of the non-farm homemakers spent more than an hour a day in farm work—18 percent of the country non-farm and 7 percent of the non-country non-farm group. Fifteen percent of the farm homemakers averaged 3 hours a day or more (Fig. 7).

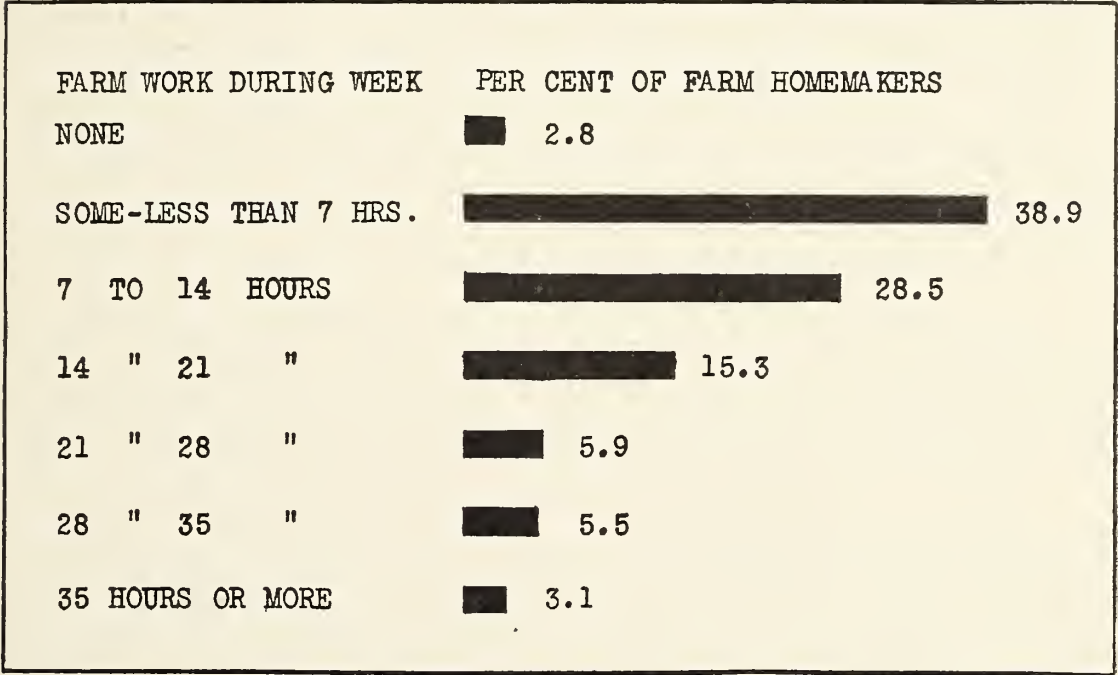


Fig. 7. More than half of the farm group averaged 7 hours a week or more in farm work.

**Attitude of homemakers toward farm work.** Those of our farm co-operators whose homemaking responsibilities were comparatively light did more farm work than those whose households required more time. An example of a situation in which they are so divided is given in Table XVIII, in which homemakers without children are shown to have done more farm work than those with children. The difference given in Table XVIII was 4.6 hours per week for the average farm homemaker; this is reduced to 3.6 hours when irregularities in the distribution of records among the months are allowed for. The same attitude was shown to prevail among country non-farm and non-country non-farm homemakers.

Most farm women find outdoor work interesting. It is likely that the time which they give to farm work will increase as homemaking time is set free by the extension of community utilities and commercial services into rural districts.



PERSONAL TIME

Homemakers tend to follow a definite pattern for the spending of personal time, which is a composite of the tastes of women generally and of homemakers in particular; physical requirements for sleep, rest, and change of scene and occupation; opportunities for the spending of leisure; the quantity of personal time which is available in a given period; and the homemaking responsibilities carried along with personal activities.

It is difficult to draw a dividing line between homemaking and personal activities. Usually a time amount was classed as homemaking when the end product contributed mainly to family well-being, regardless of the motive of the homemaker in undertaking it. Doubtless some of the time classified as homemaking would have been labeled "personal" in a motive classification.

On the other hand, during some of the time given to activities classified as personal the homemaker was not entirely free from homemaking responsibilities. If she has little children and no help, a homemaker scarcely knows the meaning of "free" time.

Even if personal time is really free with an individual homemaker, the possibilities for its use are influenced not only by its total amount but by the quantity available at any one period during the day or week, and by the hour of the day and day of the week when it is available. These are determined by household demands.

**How personal time was used.** About a fourth of the personal time of the average farm homemaker was devoted to leisure activities—7½ hours on Sunday and 3½ per day on week days. Time given to the management of personal affairs was negligible. Sleep and rest averaged 9 hours a day, and physical care of self 2 hours (Table XXXIV).

**Variation in amount and use.** Differences in the way homemakers spent their personal time were in part a consequence of the conditions which brought about differences in the total amount. When work periods were longer, time given to sleep and rest and to physical care of self were slightly less instead of more. Perhaps a part of the time given presumably to meet the demands of the body for rest and care should properly be considered an alternative use of leisure! When work days were lengthened,

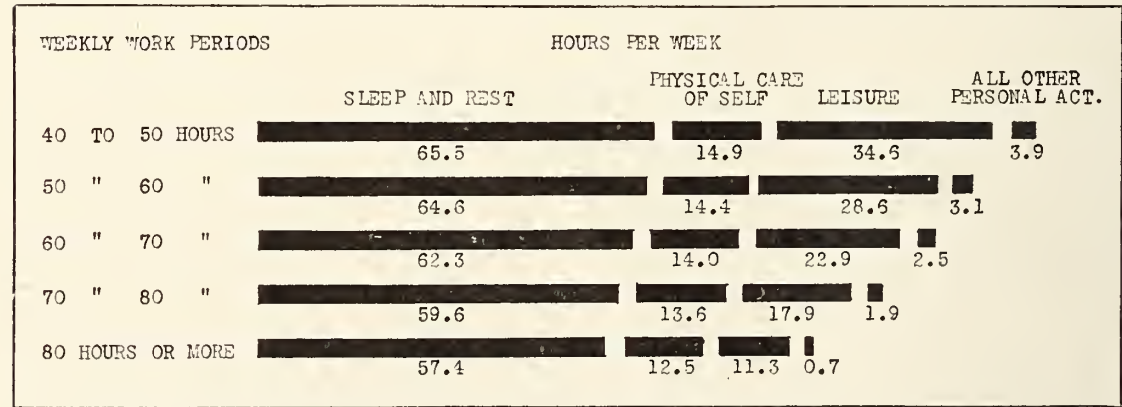


Fig. 8. When work periods are long, leisure is reduced more than sleep and rest, or physical care of self.

leisure carried on away from home was reduced to a greater degree than any other type of personal activity (Table XXXV).

Homemakers not living on farms spent a little less of their personal time in sleep and rest than farm homemakers whose work periods were the same, and gave a little more time to leisure activities (Fig. 8).

**Leisure.** Reading and informal social life were of about equal importance as leisure activities, and together accounted for more than half of the leisure time of the average farm homemaker. Most homemakers spent some time with correspondence and in telephoning, but these activities required little time. Those leisure activities which are usually carried on away from home and apart from one's family, aside from informal social life, amounted to very little.

The proportion of families having radios has increased decidedly since the records used in this study were obtained. The more important average for time given to radio is therefore that per homemaker of those who reported some time spent, which was 4.1 hours per week. The purchase of a radio naturally means an adjustment of time-spending habits. If this is distributed, as is likely, the fact that our figures for radio are out of date will make only a slight difference in averages for other leisure activities.

The other six types of leisure activity (numbers 5 to 10 in Table XXXVI) constitute the variables in the week's leisure schedule. Farm homemakers averaged 2.23 activities out of the six.

Meetings and study, work for organizations, and care of persons not members of the household encompass what is generally considered "community work," while social life, entertainments, and outings and sports constitute the recreation of homemakers. If informal social life is excluded, recreation was of considerably less importance in the leisure schedules of farm homemakers than community work (Fig. 9).

Again it is necessary to remember that these records are for "typical" weeks. A week may be non-typical because of some special leisure activity; or, it may be because normal energy for leisure activities is below par as a result of unusually long work periods or the state of health of the homemaker.

Homemakers whose leisure time was relatively small in amount tended to spend a greater proportion of it in reading and in informal social life than those with more leisure. Slightly more than half of the leisure of the 40-to-45-hour work-group and about two-thirds of that of the 90-to-95 group was given to these two activities combined (Table XXXVII).

The proportion of "free" leisure was relatively less with homemakers whose work days were long than with those with shorter working periods, because long work periods generally implied the presence of young children in families.

Less time for leisure activities meant less variety in its use. The 40-to-45-hour work-group averaged 3.3 activities out of the six variables; the 90-to-95-hour work-group, only one activity (Fig. 10).

Uniformities in the distribution of leisure time by the farm and non-farm groups suggest that the limitations imposed by household responsibilities are definite and powerful, for certainly opportunities for spending



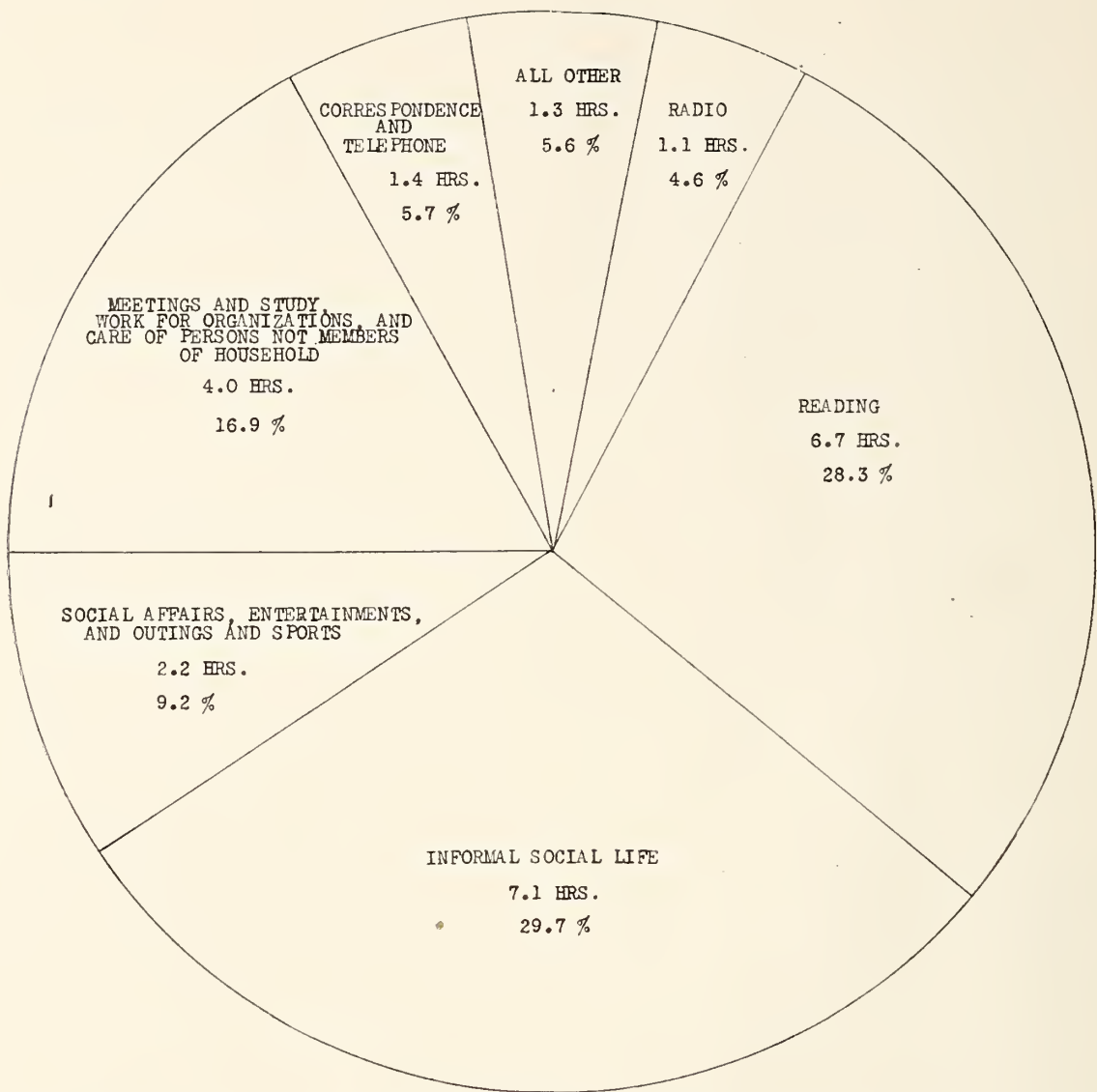


Fig. 9. Reading and informal social life are of about equal importance and together account for more than half of the average farm homemaker's leisure.

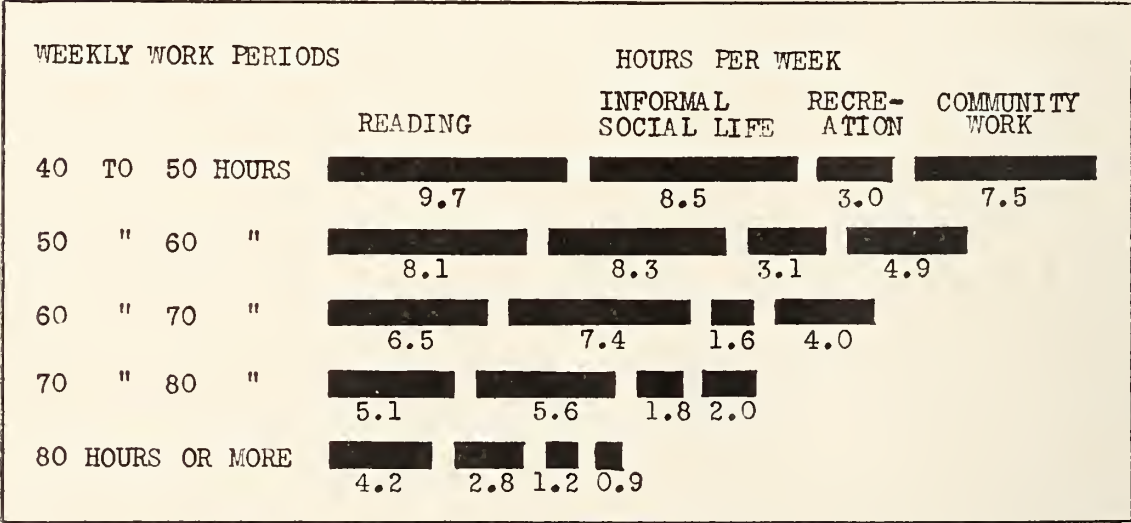


Fig. 10. When work periods are long, away-from-home leisure is decreased most.

leisure are different in town from what they are in the country. More time was given to outings and sports by non-farm than by farm homemakers. Perhaps certain aspects of farm work and of outings and sports satisfy the same need. Leisure activities of farm homemakers were slightly less varied than those of non-farm homemakers whose work periods were the same.

Farm and non-farm groups were much alike in the kind of reading they did and in their away-from-home leisure activities. Newspaper reading, church, and community and civic work were the most important leisure activities with both groups. The entertainments attended by farm homemakers were less often of the commercial variety, such as plays, movies and shows (Table XXXVIII).

### MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Occasionally time amounts appearing in the records of cooperators could be classified neither as homemaking nor as personal activities. Less than one percent of the time of the average homemaker was given to these miscellaneous activities (Table IV).

TABLE IV. MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Activity	Farm		Country non-farm		Non-country non-farm	
	Home-makers	*Time	Home-makers	*Time	Home-makers	*Time
	spending some time	spent per week	spending some time	spent per week	spending some time	spent per week
	%	Hr.-Min.	%	Hr.-Min.	%	Hr.-Min.
Automobile .....	18.1	-36	9.9	-32	9.7	-30
Other miscellaneous items.....	25.0	-29	18.3	-37	24.7	-51
Not specified items .....	72.6	1-18	55.0	1-02	57.1	-56
Time unaccounted for .....	19.4	-48	26.8	1-15	18.8	-39
Going and returning .....	37.2	-41	35.2	-34	36.4	-23
All miscellaneous activities .....	84.7	1-52	74.6	1-42	75.3	1-24

\*Average for those who reported some time spent.

### HELP RECEIVED

Help of farm homemakers was mainly that given by members of the family and was therefore limited not only in amount but in kind, its use being governed by the time of the week and of the day when it was available, the amount available at any one time, and by limitations in the kind of tasks helpers were capable of doing.

### AMOUNT OF HELP

About nine-tenths of our farm cooperators had some help during the weeks recorded. The average per week was 9.5 hours, which was about 2½ hours a week less than that received by the non-country non-farm group, but almost 2 hours more than the average for country non-farm homemakers.

**Variation in amount.** Two-thirds of the farm homemakers had less than 10 hours help during the weeks recorded. Only 8 percent of the group had as much as the half of one person's time—25 hours a week or more (Fig. 11).

Relation of amount of help to the homemaker's time distribution. Homemakers with larger amounts of help were those in whose households more work was done during the week. There is no apparent relation between amount of help and the work period or total homemaking time for farm or non-farm homemakers (Table XXXIX).

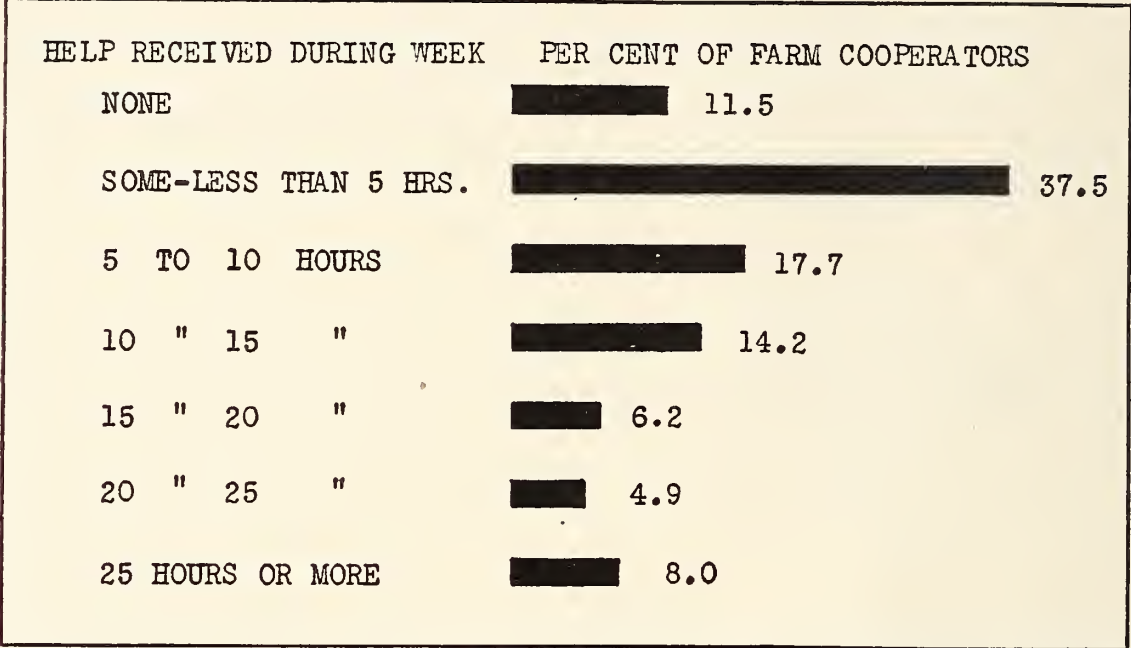


Fig. 11. Forty-nine percent of our farm cooperators had less than 5 hours help during the week.

SOURCES OF HELP

Half of the farm homemaker's help was that of children—4.6 hours a week. That from husbands averaged 2 hours. Farm homemakers received about the same amount of unpaid help as the non-country non-farm group, and the amount given by husband, other adults, and children was about the same. The main difference was in paid help—a group average of only 19 minutes a week for the farm homemaker and 3.2 hours a week for our non-country non-farm cooperators (Fig. 12).

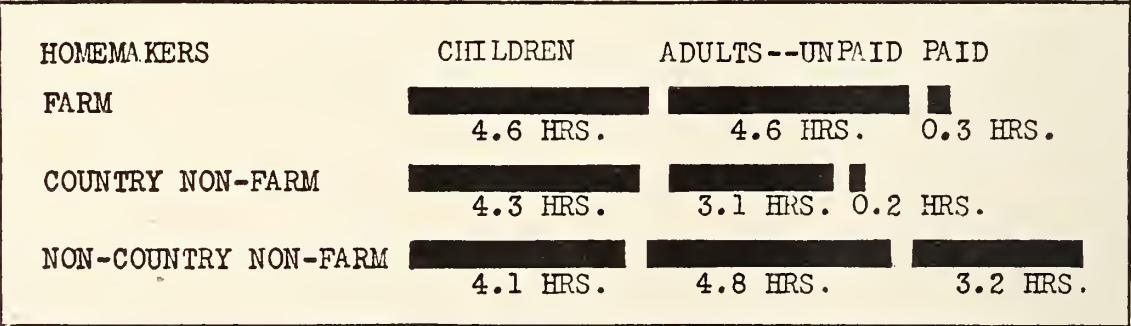


Fig. 12. One-half of the unpaid help of homemakers is that of children.

Farm children of grade school age contributed an average of 3.3 hours, those of high school age, 5 hours per week apiece. Town children of these ages averaged 3.2 hours and 4.1 hours respectively.



## KIND OF HELP

**Delegation of household tasks.** The use made of available help is shown in Table V. There are two major points of interest—the comparison of activities and groups of activities one with another in the extent to which they were delegated to help, and the comparison of farm with non-farm homemakers to see what differences were associated with the disposal of added help.

With farm and non-farm homemakers alike, mending, sewing and purchasing (other than food) were delegated to a relatively small extent, while a relatively high proportion of dish washing, care of fires, and food purchasing was delegated to help.

The advantage of the non-country non-farm homemaker was not only that she had more help, but that the extra amount was paid help and she was not so limited as the farm homemaker in the use she could make of it. It is interesting to note that she did not use as much help for sewing and food purchasing, relatively speaking, as the farm homemaker, while she made greater use of help for ironing (Table V).

TABLE V. PROPORTION OF TOTAL TIME REQUIREMENTS WHICH WERE GIVEN BY HELP IN FARM AND NON-COUNTRY NON-FARM HOUSEHOLDS; FOR HOMEMAKING, ITS MAJOR DIVISIONS, AND FOR SELECTED ACTIVITIES

Activity	Proportion given by help		
	Farm	Non-country non-farm	Ratio of farm to non-farm
	%	%	
1. All homemaking .....	15.5	19.0	1.2
2. All food activities .....	15.4	20.5	1.3
3. Preparing all meals .....	10.7	14.0	1.3
4. Clearing all meals .....	22.8	32.1	1.4
5. All house activities .....	25.5	27.6	1.1
6. Daily and weekly cleaning .....	12.5	18.7	1.5
7. Care of fires .....	64.5	73.4	1.1
8. All clothing and textile activities.....	7.8	11.1	1.4
9. Regular washing .....	11.7	14.1	1.2
10. Regular ironing .....	9.7	19.8	2.0
11. Mending .....	5.2	7.4	1.4
12. Sewing .....	5.6	3.7	0.7
13. All purchasing .....	15.1	14.4	1.0
14. Food purchasing .....	31.9	23.7	0.7
15. Other purchasing .....	6.9	8.7	1.3
16. Routine (3+4+6+7+9+10+11) .....	16.7	22.2	1.3
17. Care of members of household .....	13.9	18.9	1.4

**Attitude of homemakers toward employment of household help.** Homemakers are more interested in improving houses and their equipment than in employing help in the household. Only 4 percent of the farm and 15 percent of the non-country non-farm homemakers listed the hiring of help in reply to the question, "If you had a thousand dollars to spend as you liked in making your homemaking easier or pleasanter for you, how would you spend it?" On the contrary, 94 percent of the farm and 85 percent of the non-country non-farm homemakers listed some sort of housing improvement.

The fact that the proportion of farm homemakers listing hired help was lower than that of the non-farm group does not necessarily indicate a difference in attitude. Equipment comes first with both, but the houses of the farm cooperators were not so well equipped to begin with.

## FACTORS AFFECTING THE USE OF TIME BY HOMEMAKERS

Factors affecting the use of time by the homemaker are mainly those which determine the content of her work schedule—the family living standard, individual tastes and preferences, the size and composition of the family, the money available for household uses, the availability of commercial services, the demands of the farm enterprise, the time of year, and the care required by the house itself and by family possessions. Time given to specific tasks may be somewhat influenced by the kind of equipment used in doing them.

Variations in the amount of time given to any one activity, such as the care of children, have a secondary effect on all other activities, since the length of the work day is not capable of indefinite expansion and extra demands in one particular must be met by time adjustments and economies of one sort or another.

Supplementary information available concerning our cooperators makes it possible to show something of the variations in time distribution which are associated with differences in size and composition of family, the season, the house and its equipment and the use of commercial services, also those associated with differences in schooling of homemakers.

### SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLD

A homemaking career may be considered as having one major cycle—so far as time requirements are concerned—beginning and ending with a two-person, no-child household. Obviously, the time required for homemaking begins to increase when the first child is born; at some point in the cycle it begins to decrease. When, if ever, does the homemaker have help enough to offset added time requirements, so that the time she devotes to homemaking is not influenced by the size of her household or the ages of her children?

**Child requirements.** The pivot of the homemaker's work schedule is the time required for the care of members of the household. Time given to adults was negligible. Our records were kept for "normal" weeks, so we do not have illustrations of work schedules involving the care of the sick. "Care of members" virtually means "care of children in normal health."

Time given to care of members of the household by homemakers with children was least for those whose children were all above six years of age, intermediate for those whose youngest children were between one and six, and greatest for those with children under one year.

Time required per child for children of various ages can be inferred from the first four groups described in Table VI. The rapid decrease in time requirements of children as they grow older is expressed in the following comparison for farm homemakers: When the time required for a child under 1 year is considered 100.0 percent

that of a child 1 to 5 is 35.3 percent  
that of a child 6 to 14 is 8.7 percent  
that of a child 15 to 18 is 6.8 percent.

When there are babies and one-to-fives in a family, but no older children, the child-care demand on the homemaker is intensified. A child under



one year, for example, required 15.9 hours a week of a farm homemaker with no other children, while a child of preschool age was given 5.6 hours by the homemaker with no younger or older ones. The actual average for the homemaker with a baby and one child of preschool age was an hour a week more than the sum of these two averages.

TABLE VI. FARM HOMEMAKERS CLASSIFIED AS TO AGES OF CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD AND TIME SPENT IN CARE OF CHILDREN

Ages of children in household	Number of home- makers	Average num- ber of children in household	Time per week spent by home- makers in care of children
			<i>Hr.-Min.</i>
Under one year only .....	4	1.00	15-56
1-5 yrs. only .....	28	1.54	8-26
6-14 yrs. only .....	57	1.86	2-38
15-18 yrs. only .....	16	1.31	1-24
Under one year and 1-5 .....	4	2.00	22-36
Under one year and 6-14 .....	3	4.00	18-18
1-5 and 6-14 .....	39	3.05	7-00
1-5 and 15-18 .....	3	2.67	6-15
6-14 and 15-18 .....	32	2.78	-58
Under 1 year, and 1-5, and 6-14 .....	3	5.33	15-30
1-5, and 6-14, and 15-18 .....	8	4.13	6-22
In all age groups .....	2	6.00	26-20

Generally speaking, farm homemakers averaged slightly less time in the care of members of the household than non-country non-farm homemakers whose families were of the same size and composition.

Time spent in washing varied somewhat with respect to child requirements. Farm homemakers with children under one year averaged 5.8 hours per week in washing, while the others averaged 3.5 hours per week; the households of the former averaged 5.7 persons; of the latter, 4.8 persons.

**Help received.** Homemakers with children between 6 and 14 years of age averaged 3.3 hours a week from each child of this age group; those with children 15 to 18 years received 5 hours a week from each child of this age. Help given by husbands was greatest in families where the children were all under 6 years of age—3.6 hours a week. In households where there were children above six, help from husbands averaged 1.8 hours. Help from other sources did not vary greatly.

**Housekeeping and the size of the household.** Help in meal preparation was not sufficient to offset requirements due to increases in number of persons served. Consequently the larger the household the more time spent by the homemaker on meal preparation. Time given by homemakers to the other major housekeeping tasks—clearing away meals, cleaning, care of fires, laundry and mending—and to the management of the household, varied little with respect to differences in number of persons served. The basis for estimating number of persons was 21 meals, or 7 lodgings. The lodgings equivalent was used for all activities except meals (Fig. 13 and Table XL).

**The work period.** How farm homemakers distribute their time in various types of households and how they compare with non-country non-farm homemakers are shown in Table VII. In families where there are children, help is not sufficient to meet demands due to larger households

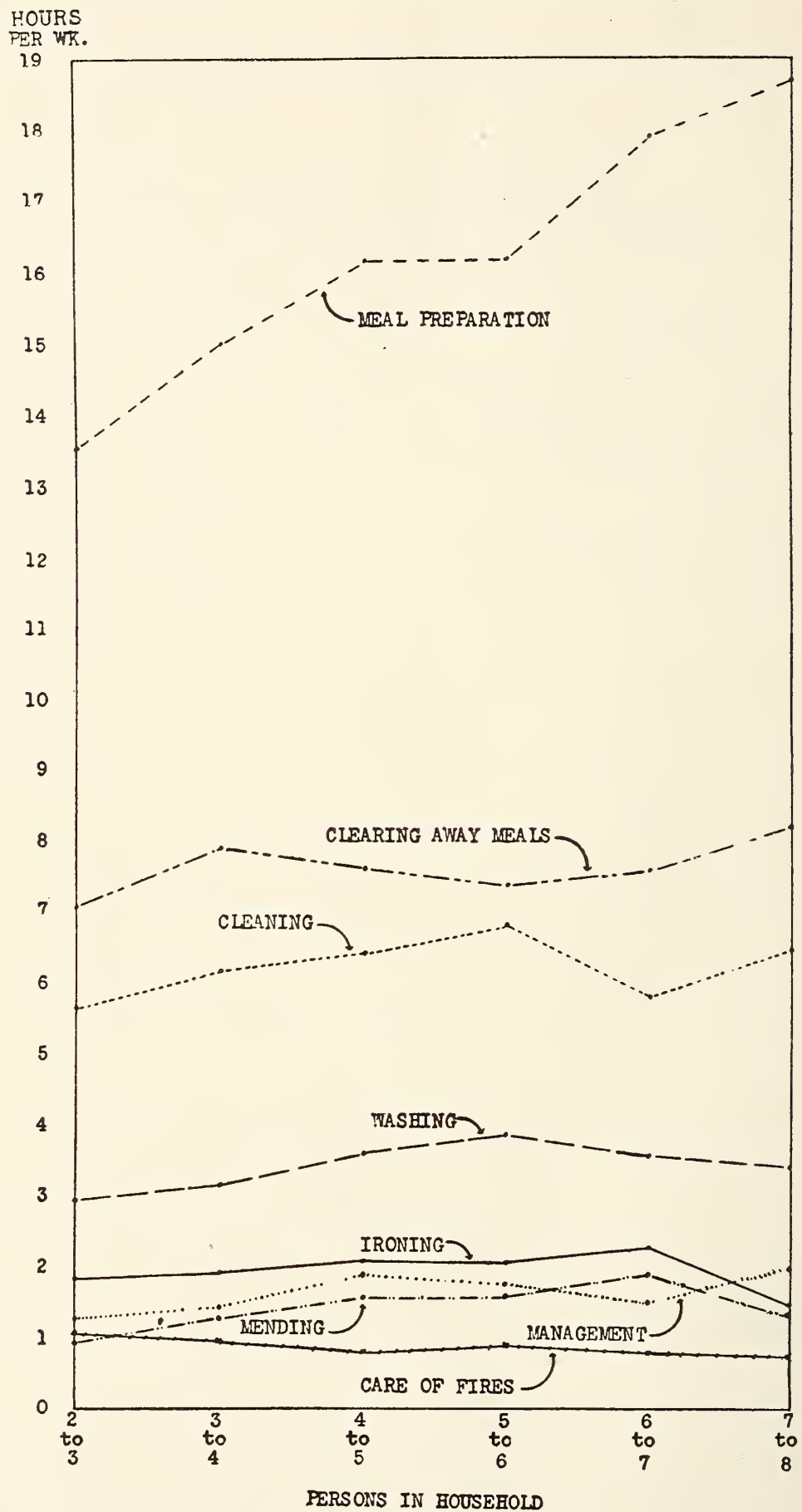


Fig. 13. Number of persons served and time spent by homemaker.

and young children, so the time spent by the homemaker in homemaking is increased. Work outside the home is reduced somewhat, but not enough to offset increases in homemaking.

TABLE VII. CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD, IN RELATION TO TIME DISTRIBUTION OF HOMEMAKERS AND HELP RECEIVED IN HOMEMAKING IN FARM AND NON-FARM HOUSEHOLDS

Children in household	Number of home-makers	Average persons in household	—Group average—time— per week		Help received in home-making	Proportion of work period of homemaker which was spent in home-making.
			—Homemaker— All home-making	All work		
			Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%
Farm homemakers						
No children .....	89	2.69	44-54	60-32	4-18	74.2
No children under 6 .....	105	4.60	51-08	62-17	12-32	82.1
Youngest child between 1 and 6....	78	4.98	56-04	66-31	10-42	84.3
Youngest child under 1 .....	16	5.66	69-22	77-15	11-58	89.0
Non-country non-farm homemakers						
No children .....	23	2.61	44-15	49-32	5-39	89.3
No children under 6 .....	53	4.52	47-56	52-32	11-01	91.2
Youngest child between 1 and 6....	69	4.69	54-52	56-46	12-54	96.7
Youngest child under 1 .....	9	5.25	65-33	67-17	28-40	97.4

**Children and the homemaker's personal time.** When differences in the total amount of personal time are considered, farm homemakers who have no children or whose children are all old enough to go to school did not differ greatly in the manner of time distribution from those with young children. Those with no children spent a little more time reading and a little less in informal social life than the average farm homemaker of the same work period. The homemaker whose children are all under six gave relatively more time to social affairs and less to meetings and study.

Homemakers with no children engaged in fewer leisure activities than those with children, although they had more leisure time. The age of the average homemaker may be the main factor; 45 percent of those without children were 48 years of age, or more. A relatively small proportion of them gave any time at all to outings and sports; however, this group spent more time doing farm work than homemakers with children; also, 57.3 percent of them devoted some time to the care of house surroundings, while only 36.1 percent of homemakers with children devoted any time to this activity.

The proportion of homemakers whose children are all under six who gave any time at all to social affairs and to entertainments was relatively small, suggesting the effect of the proportionate lack of "free" leisure (Table XLI).

The presence of children in the household made less difference with farm than with non-farm homemakers in their participation in leisure activities usually carried on away from home.

**The homemaking cycle.** Fig. 14 is a description of time expenditure by groups of farm homemakers so selected as to approximate stages in the



career of a homemaker. The work period was longest when there were babies and runabouts, and none old enough to help, although work outside the home was least with this group. Leisure was least with homemakers having only one child, a baby.

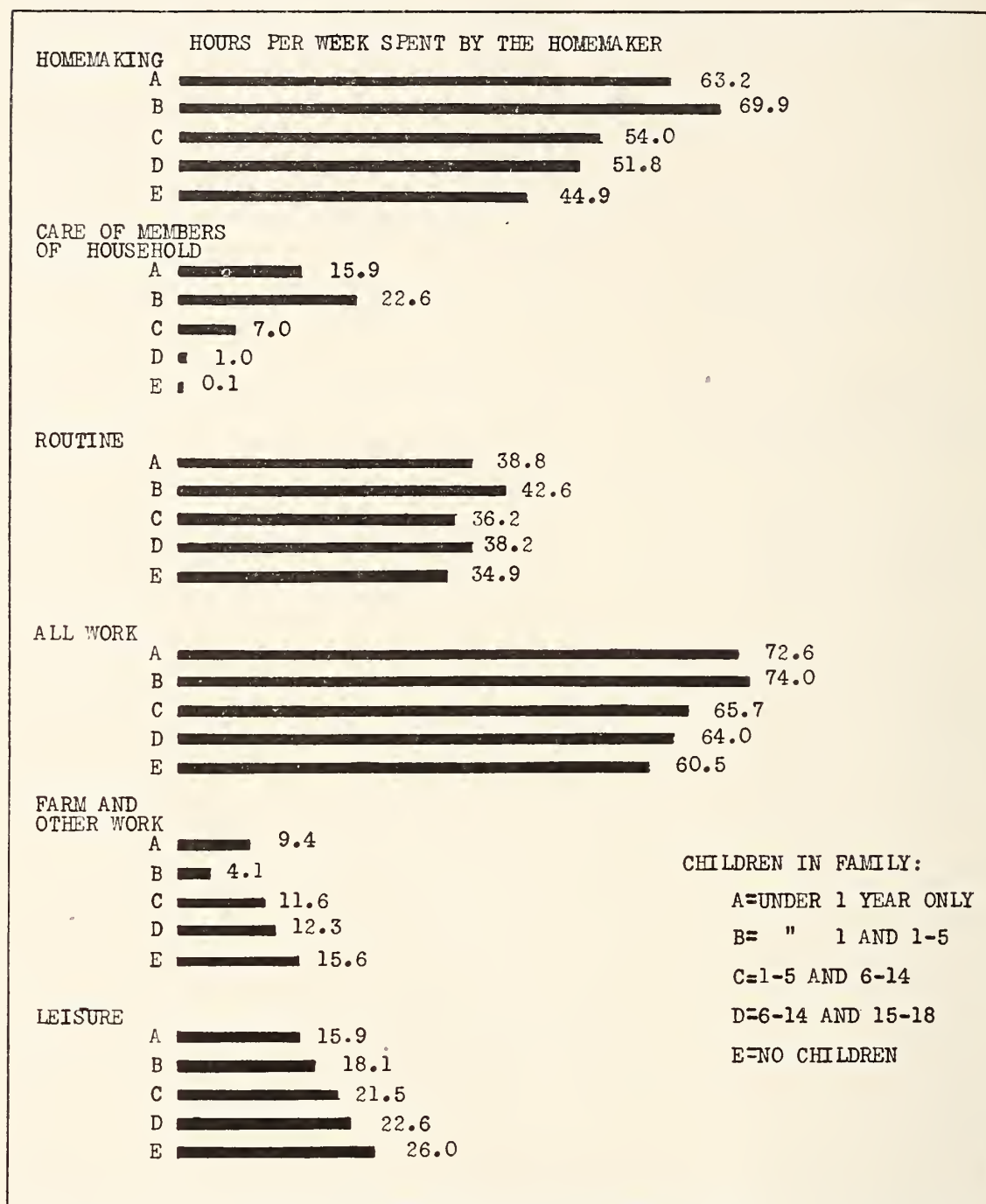


Fig. 14. Time changes in a homemaking career.

### SEASON

Circumstances which cause the homemaker's work schedule to vary from month to month are these:

1. Variations in help available

Examples—of children during the school year and during vacation.  
 —of men, in busy season and in slack times.

2. Weather conditions.
3. Family festivals and guests.
4. Seasonal household tasks, such as canning, house-cleaning, cooking for farm help.
5. Seasonal demands of farm work done by women.

**Seasonal variations in homemaking.** The chief homemaking activities for which the seasonal aspects seem most important are food preservation, care of fires and house surroundings, and purchasing (other than food). June marked the apparent beginning of the food-preservation season. The proportion of farm homemakers spending some time in food preservation increased month by month until September, when all of them spent some time. Food preservation required the least time in March, April, and May. Fires required some attention from homemakers during every month, the least being June and July. Care of house surroundings required the least time in December and January, with March to October as the period of greatest activity.

Homemakers varied little from month to month in time given to housework routine, when differences in the number of persons served are taken into account.

There are month-to-month variations in some housekeeping tasks which may be due to seasonal causes or to the effort of the homemaker to level her work periods. Extra cleaning is of greatest importance in the schedules for April and May; fancy work is a winter-time activity, and more time is then given to mending also (tables VIII and XLII).

TABLE VIII. GROUP AVERAGES PER WEEK FOR TIME SPENT IN SELECTED HOME-MAKING ACTIVITIES BY FARM HOMEMAKERS, CLASSIFIED BY MONTHS IN WHICH THEY KEPT RECORDS

Months	Group average—time per week—							
	Food preserva- tion	Care of fires	Care of house surround- ings	Purchas- ing for household (other than food)	Extra clean- ing	Sewing	Mending	Fancy work
	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.
January .....	-53	1-04	-13	-41	-26	3-25	2-32	2-44
February .....	-41	1-14	-15	-32	-36	2-56	1-27	1-08
March .....	-03	-59	1-04	-43	-16	2-38	1-12	-43
April .....	-07	-51	1-14	-57	-49	3-44	-56	1-20
May .....	-18	-43	2-11	-26	-46	3-32	1-36	-32
June .....	1-53	-25	1-15	1-07	-16	3-11	-32	-22
July .....	2-05	-24	1-39	-45	1-27	3-03	2-06	-09
August .....	4-58	-52	-52	-18	-13	2-29	-59	-13
September .....	4-31	-55	-40	1-09	-31	1-51	1-04	-22
October .....	1-11	1-17	-44	-26	-38	2-56	1-20	-29
November .....	1-09	-35	-19	-43	-37	3-46	2-15	-27
December .....	1-18	1-39	-25	1-13	-24	3-34	2-06	2-37

There was little variation during the year in total help received in homemaking, except in August, when extra help in food preservation brought up the total. During the summer months the average per child given by school children was twice that during the school year.

With farm and non-farm homemakers similarities in month-to-month variations in homemaking are greater than differences. Food preservation

was generally less important, but the greatest difference was in the period from November to February. The serving of refreshments for social affairs was more of an item with the latter, but no time was given to this activity in May, June, and July. Time given to care of house surroundings varied from month to month in about the same way as for the farm group. As with the farm group also, time given to fancy work was greater in the winter. Purchasing for the household, other than food, required the least time in the period from May to August.

**Seasonal differences in farm work.** Farm homemakers varied from month to month in the time which they gave to farm work. Some types of farm activity require no time at all during a portion of the year. Others have both a routine and a seasonal aspect. Part of the apparent seasonal increase is no doubt due to the fact that during the busy season farm women attend to chores for which the men are responsible during slack times.

Farm work was lowest in January, when 71 percent of those who spent any time at all spent less than 7 hours per week and all spent less than 21 hours. In August 89 percent spent 7 hours or more.

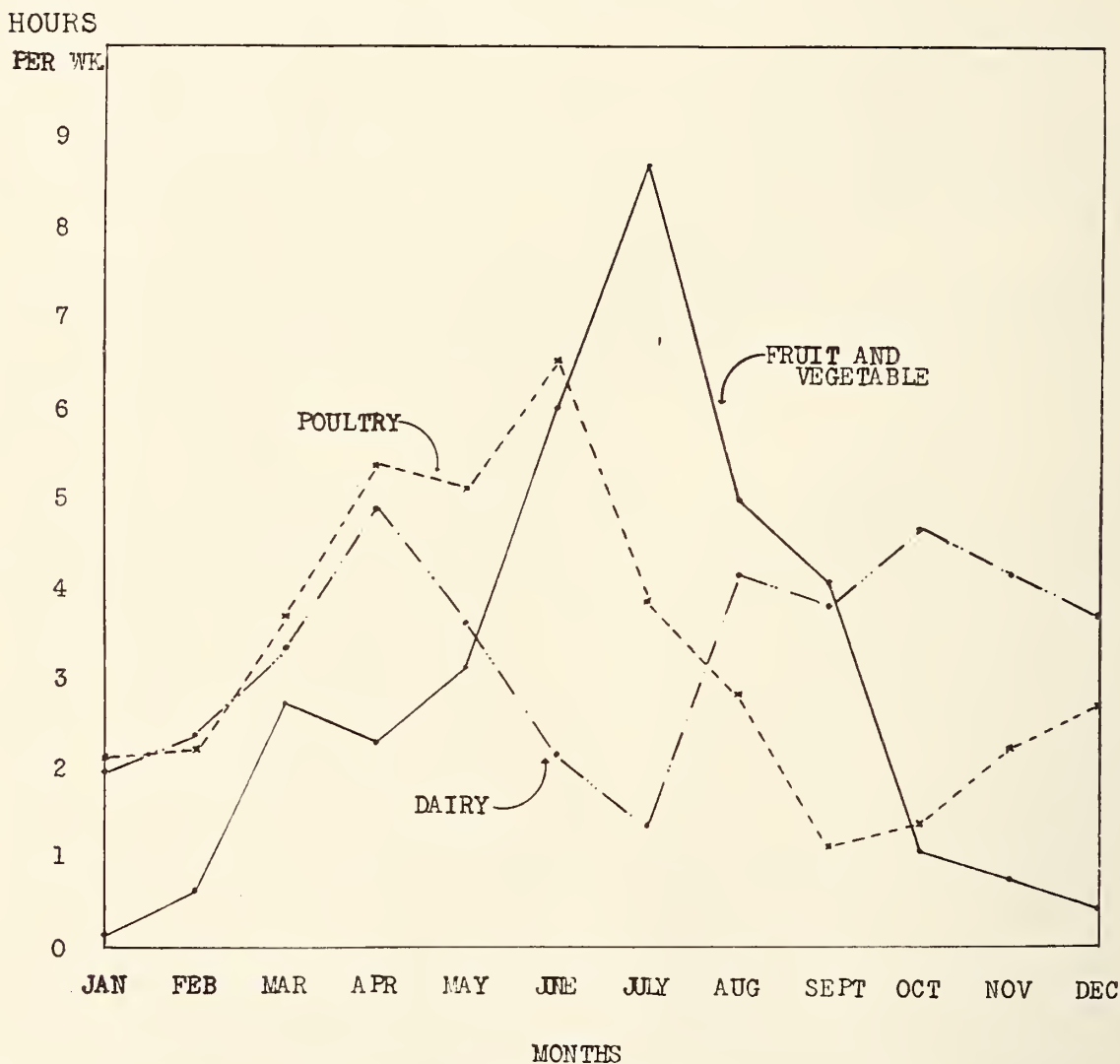


Fig. 15. Month-to-month variations in time spent by farm homemakers in the three major farm activities.



Some time was spent in each of the three major farm activities during each month. Only 27 percent of the January records showed any time at all spent in horticultural activities, while all of those kept in June, July, and August showed some time spent. The variation was least for dairy.

The seasonal aspect was more pronounced for gardening and fruit growing than for either of the other two major farm activities. It was least pronounced in dairy work (Fig. 15 and Table XLIII).

The peak of the year for each of the major farm activities, as well as the extent to which each one of them is seasonal in character, may be inferred from the following comparison. "Percent of homemakers" refers to the proportion of homemakers spending any time at all on farm work who spent as much as  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours during the weeks recorded.

Gardening and fruit growing

Summer, 64.5 percent of homemakers

Spring, 24.4 percent of homemakers

Fall, 21.0 percent of homemakers

Winter, 3.4 percent of homemakers

Poultry

Spring, 44.7 percent of homemakers

Summer, 43.2 percent of homemakers

Winter, 27.6 percent of homemakers

Fall, 11.3 percent of homemakers

Dairy

Fall, 50.0 percent of homemakers

Spring, 44.0 percent of homemakers

Summer, 29.7 percent of homemakers

Winter, 29.3 percent of homemakers

**The yearly cycle.** Month-to-month variations in the length of the work period were chiefly determined by the kind and amount of farm work done. The peak of the year's cycle is in midsummer, with a secondary peak at holiday time, which seems to have been a consequence of both farm and homemaking demands (Table IX).

TABLE IX. TOTAL WORK PERIOD AND HOMEMAKING AND FARM WORK OF FARM HOMEMAKERS CLASSIFIED BY MONTHS IN WHICH THEY KEPT RECORDS

Month during which record was kept	Number of homemakers	Group average—time per week—		
		All work	Homemaking	Farm work
		<i>Hr.-Min.</i>	<i>Hr.-Min.</i>	<i>Hr.-Min.</i>
January .....	15	60-52	55-21	4-48
February .....	28	61-18	53-38	7-14
March .....	44	61-40	49-15	12-05
April .....	31	62-04	47-58	14-02
May .....	51	64-30	50-56	13-07
June .....	14	64-39	47-11	16-45
July .....	5	74-59	57-07	17-52
August .....	18	67-40	50-30	14-57
September .....	24	62-03	50-43	9-50
October .....	19	63-04	52-47	9-19
November .....	19	67-41	57-20	8-22
December .....	20	66-17	55-03	8-12

The combined effect of the main seasonal activities—farm work, food preservation, care of house surroundings, and care of fires, is shown in Fig. 16.

The yearly cycle for homemakers with families of a given type would probably show greater variations than those indicated in the averages for all farm homemakers; the latter necessarily show the effect of the relative scarcity of "typical" weeks for households of different types, at different seasons of the year. Table X shows the preponderance in the months of March to August of records from homemakers with no children.

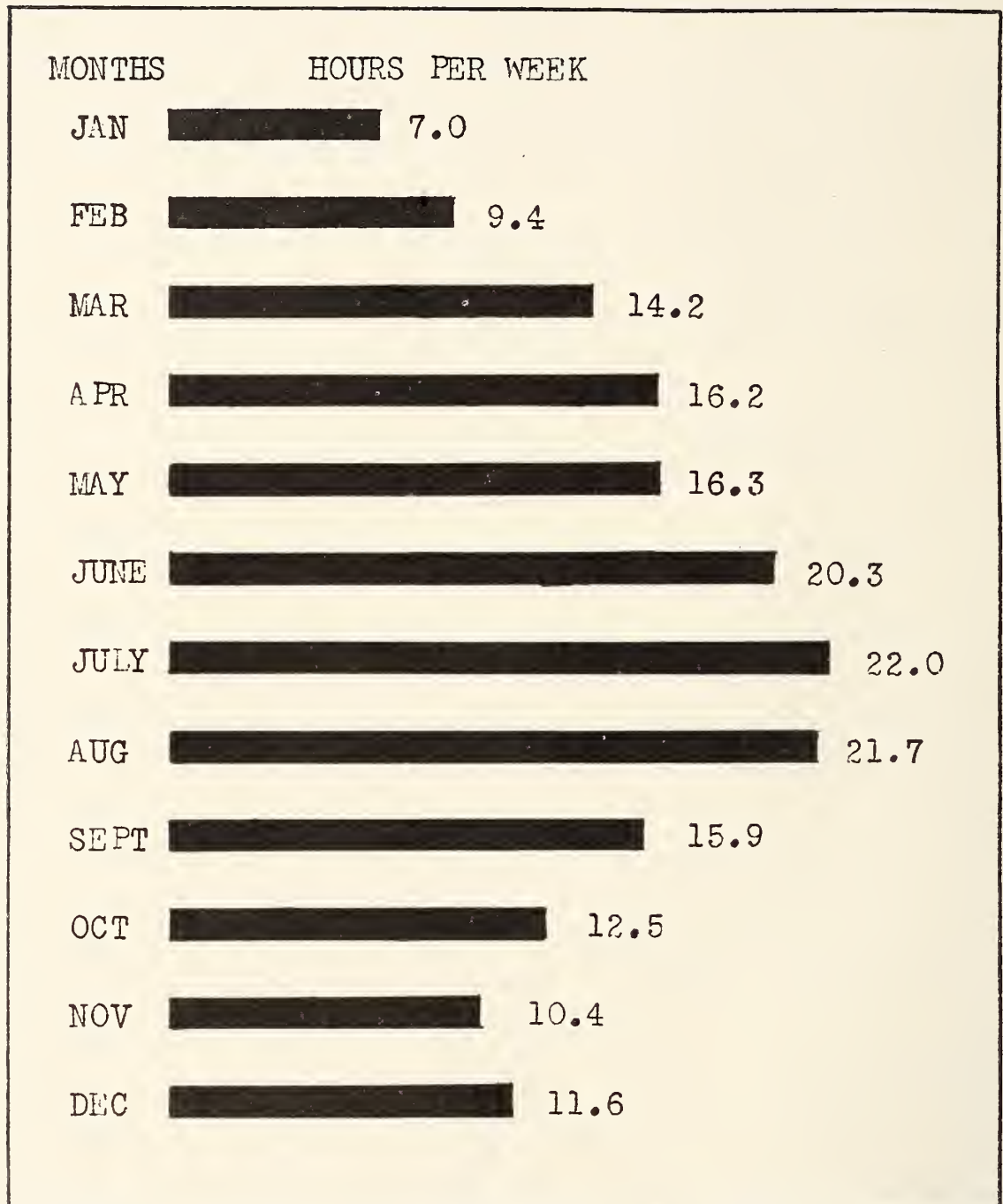


Fig. 16. The peak of the year for seasonal activities is midsummer. (Combined time given to farm work, food preservation, care of fires, and care of house surroundings, by farm homemakers.)

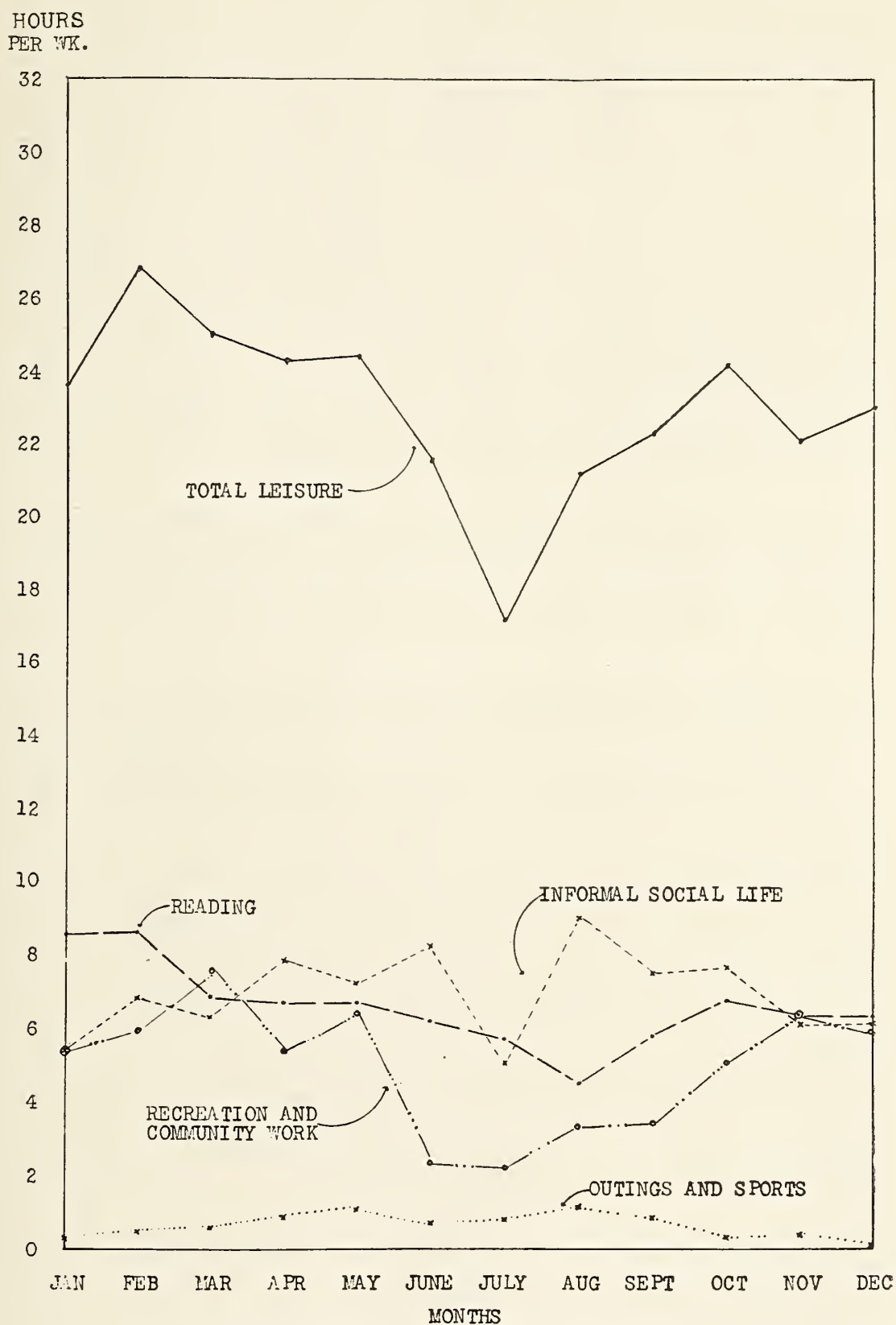


Fig. 17. Leisure activities and time of year.



TABLE X. FARM COOPERATORS CLASSIFIED AS TO CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD AND AS TO TIME OF YEAR WHEN RECORDS WERE KEPT

Children in household	Time of year					
	September to February			March to August		
	Number of records.	Percentage of all records kept during period.	Percentage of all records of same child-group which were kept during period.*	Number of records.	Percentage of all records kept during period.	Percentage of all records of same child-group which were kept during period.*
All farm cooperators .....	125	.....	.....	163	.....	.....
Cooperators without children .....	33	26.4	37.1	56	34.4	62.9
Cooperators—youngest child 6 or over....	45	36.0	42.9	60	36.8	57.1
Cooperators—youngest child 1-5 .....	38	30.4	48.7	40	24.5	51.3
Cooperators—youngest child under 1 yr.	9	7.2	56.3	7	4.3	43.7

\*That is, of the group described in the left-hand column.

**Personal time.** The use of personal time varied with the amount of it in the manner described previously. Time given to outings and sports varied with the season, but it was always a minor leisure activity (Table XLIV). Month-to-month variations in leisure and its uses are shown in Fig. 17.

TABLE XI. EQUIPMENT OF HOUSES OF COOPERATORS

Equipment	Houses		
	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm
	%	%	%
Lighting:			
Kerosene—only .....	36.8	25.4	3.2
Kerosene and gas, or gas only .....	35.1	18.3	1.4
Electricity (with or without other types).....	28.1	56.3	95.4
Heating:			
Fireplace only .....	12.2	6.3	6.5
Stoves—with or without fireplace .....	79.3	74.6	47.9
Furnace—with or without fireplace .....	7.4	19.1	42.7
Cooking:			
Wood stove—only .....	67.7	64.8	44.8
Kerosene, gas, gasoline (with or without wood)....	27.4	26.8	26.7
Electricity (with or without other types) .....	4.9	8.4	28.5
Plumbing:			
No modern features .....	37.0	33.3	3.6
Partly equipped .....	25.4	23.6	12.3
All modern features .....	37.6	43.1	84.1
Laundry:			
Power washing machine .....	25.3	33.8	54.6
Hand washing machine only .....	33.3	22.5	13.6
Irons heated by stove only .....	65.6	39.4	7.1
Irons heated by electricity .....	24.0	52.1	91.5
Sewing:			
Machines with motors .....	2.1	7.0	22.7
Cleaning:			
Electric vacuum cleaners .....	6.3	16.9	43.5

## THE HOUSE AND ITS EQUIPMENT

There are five main methods whereby an individual homemaker can reduce the time which she gives to household needs; namely, use of more help, use of commercial services, simplifying of standards, improvement in technique, or purchase of labor-saving devices. The last-named method is the one most favored, and many have an exaggerated idea of the time reduction possible from its use.

Table XI shows that only a small proportion of country homes were equipped in the modern fashion so far as heat, light, power, water supply, and waste disposal were concerned, while the corresponding proportion of non-country non-farm homes was large. In a recent study made by the Oregon State Extension Service, in which a "Standard Farm Home" was defined by representative farm women, electricity and water systems were listed as essentials in practically all cases. It is well to ask, what is the difference in time required for routine tasks in poorly equipped and well-equipped homes? To what purposes is the surplus time applied?

**Relation of time distribution to use of water and electricity.** Of the farm cooperators 43 percent had neither electricity nor modern plumbing in their homes, while 19 percent had both of these utilities. Of the non-country non-farm group 90 percent had both. Following is a summary of the main differences between farm homemakers whose houses had neither electricity nor modern plumbing and those whose houses had both of these utilities. Time given is approximate, allowance being made so far as possible for other factors affecting time distribution. Time differences should not be considered as entirely determined by the presence or absence of these utilities. The house which has both of them may also be better equipped in other ways than the house with neither electricity nor modern plumbing. Possibly money is available for the use of commercial services or paid help.

*Good equipment associated with smaller amounts of time:*

Preparing and clearing away meals—average difference per week .....	2 hrs. 0 min.
Routine cleaning and care of fires—average difference per week .....	0 hrs. 40 min.
Washing—average difference per week.....	0 hrs. 40 min.
Total—difference per week .....	3 hrs. 20 min.

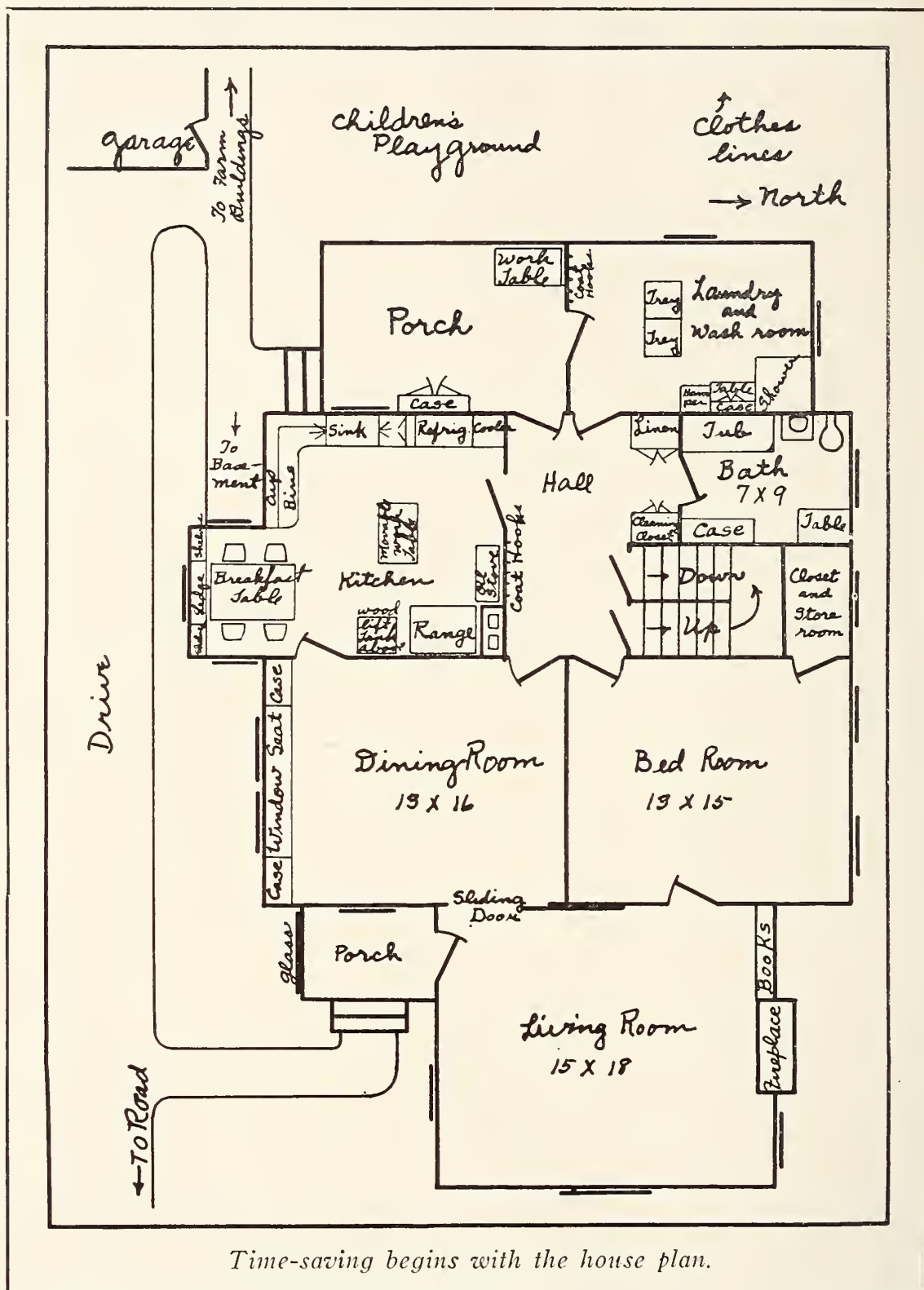
*Good equipment associated with larger amounts of time:*

Ironing—average difference per week.....	0 hrs. 25 min.
Sewing—average difference per week.....	0 hrs. 45 min.
Care of children—average difference per week.....	0 hrs. 30 min.
Care of house surroundings—average difference per week .....	0 hrs. 30 min.
Total—average difference per week.....	2 hrs. 10 min.

That is, the margin of time of the homemaker with the comparatively well equipped home was given to the "higher life" aspects of her home-making with an average net addition to her personal time of about an hour a week.

A further study of time given to the care of children discloses the interesting fact that the equipment advantage was passed on to the young

children in the two situations which require the longest work days from homemakers—when there are no children old enough to help and when families are unusually large.



**Equipment and time reduction.** When the homemaker with the well-equipped house devotes as much time to a specific household activity as the homemaker whose house is not so well equipped, there are several possible explanations:



a. That no time reduction is possible, and the equipment is of value because it makes the job more pleasant or because it reduces energy requirement.

b. That time habits tend to persist, with the result that the family living standard is raised by the introduction of improved equipment. The purchase of a power washing machine, for example, may mean more frequent changes of linen.

c. That the homemaker spends more time on the parts of the task which she most enjoys doing.

d. That time given by other members of the family or by hired help is reduced rather than her own time.

That the desire of our cooperators for better equipment was widespread was indicated by their answers to the question, "If you had a thousand dollars to spend as you liked in making your housework easier or pleasanter for you, how would you spend it?" Two hundred and forty-nine farm, 63 country non-farm, and 139 non-country non-farm homemakers answered this question. Table XII gives the percentages of homemakers who listed plumbing or electricity. Percentages for electricity were influenced by the fact that many cooperators lived in sections to which power lines are not likely to be extended for some time. The table also includes those whose replies might have been meant to include electricity and water.

TABLE XII. REPLIES OF COOPERATORS AS TO DESIRED EQUIPMENT

Reply	Homemakers*		
	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm
	%	%	%
Plumbing, installation or improvement .....	38.2	38.1	9.4
Electricity, installation or added equipment .....	52.2	54.0	55.4
New house .....	6.4	4.8	2.9
"Convenient" home .....	12.0	11.1	7.9
"Home improvement" .....	2.8	1.6	3.6

\*Proportion of the homemakers who answered the question.

## USE OF COMMERCIAL SERVICES

Homemakers vary in the extent to which commercial services are used to supplant the traditional tasks of the home. Information is available which shows the extent to which our cooperators made use of two of them—laundry and bread baking—during the weeks studied.

**Laundry.** Farm homemakers make little use of commercial laundries. Ninety-seven percent of the country homemakers and 99 percent of those who live in town did some laundry at home during the weeks studied. Of those who did laundry at home, 86 percent of the country and 73 percent of the non-country non-farm homemakers did all of the family laundry.

**Bread baking.** The baking of bread is still carried on in the majority of farm homes. Homemakers with large families bought less of their bread

than those with small families. Following are proportions for farm households up to seven persons and for all farm homemakers.

Size of household	Baked none	Baked more than half	Baked all
	%	%	%
2 and less than 3 persons .....	48.0	10.0	40.0
3 and less than 4 persons .....	37.5	19.6	37.5
4 and less than 5 persons .....	31.3	23.9	41.8
5 and less than 6 persons .....	35.3	7.8	53.0
6 and less than 7 persons .....	23.1	23.1	46.2
All homemakers .....	42.7	17.6	35.6

How much does bread baking add to food time? The classification did not include bread baking as a separate activity, but where the homemaker's record mentioned it specifically time amounts were classified under "other meals." Farm homemakers with 4-to-5 person households averaged 3 hours a week in preparing "other meals" when all bread was baked; those who bought all their bread averaged 2 hours a week. It is likely that some of the attention given to bread was included in the records for regular meals.

Eighty-two percent of the non-country non-farm homemakers bought all their bread. Only 9 percent baked all of the family supply. The country non-farm group were intermediate—59 percent bought all they used while 23 percent baked all of it.

**Meals eaten away from home.** Farm homemakers prepared more meals for each person lodged than non-country non-farm homemakers; the number of meals served for each 7 lodgings furnished was 20.2 for farm, 20.0 for country non-farm, and 18.6 for non-country non-farm homemakers.

### LOCATION OF HOME

It seems clear from the foregoing discussion that the location of the home is a factor in determining the manner in which the homemaker uses her time, mainly because it gives her a chance to use productively time not needed for her household. When conditions are alike with respect to size and composition of household, equipment, and amount of paid help, and when the same use is made of commercial services, there is very little difference in the contribution of rural and urban homemakers to their household needs. There are some differences in the use of leisure which can properly be said to be associated with the location of the home.

### SCHOOLING OF HOMEMAKERS

Farm and non-country non-farm cooperators differed considerably in the amount of their schooling. There are no statistics available for reference, but it is likely that our farm cooperators represent all farm homemakers much more closely than our non-country non-farm cooperators represent all non-country non-farm homemakers in this particular. What differences in the manner of using time are associated with differences in schooling?

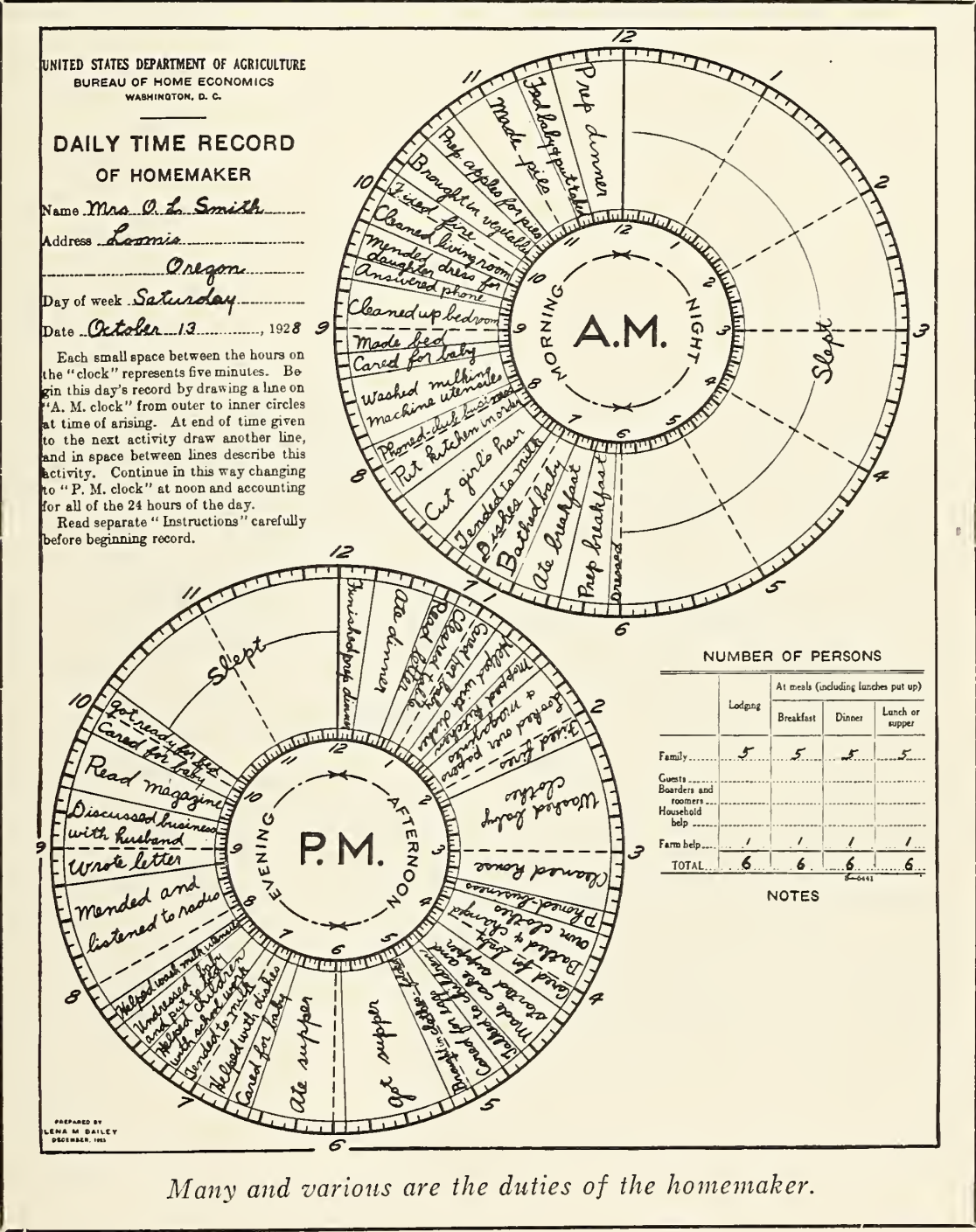
**Classification of cooperators as to amount of schooling.** Cooperators were divided into three groups, corresponding as nearly as possible to elementary, high school, and beyond high school. Of the farm cooperators 34.5 percent were in the elementary group and 49.4 in the high school

group; of the non-country non-farm cooperators 12.2 percent were in the elementary and 39.2 percent in the high school group.

In classifying the schooling groups of homemakers with respect to factors the effect of which has been previously described, the most significant difference noted was in the proportions of each group having no children:

PERCENTAGE OF HOMEMAKERS WITH NO CHILDREN

	Farm	Non-country non-farm
Elementary .....	45.6	44.4
High school .....	20.1	3.4
College .....	33.3	15.3





Several conjectures as to the reason for this irregularity are possible. Perhaps the homemaker with limited schooling and with children is least apt to take part in the work of community organizations, through which most of our cooperators were obtained. Perhaps she is the homemaker who is "burdened" to the greatest degree, and for that reason most reluctant to volunteer to keep a time record.

There was a slight direct relation between amount of schooling of homemakers and character of household equipment. Proportions of each schooling group whose houses had neither electricity nor plumbing and those which had both of these utilities are as follows:

	Schooling group		
	Elementary	High school	College
	%	%	%
Farm homemakers			
Neither .....	43.3	42.2	38.1
Both .....	15.6	24.2	23.8
Non-country non-farm homemakers			
Neither .....	5.6	1.7	1.4
Both .....	72.2	89.7	93.0

The irregularity of distribution of non-country non-farm homemakers as to equipment of houses is a reflection of the irregularity of their distribution with respect to size of community. Evidently the village organizations selected as an approach to possible cooperators were much more nearly representative of the population as to schooling than were the town and city organizations chosen.

In considering time differences among schooling groups, no cause-and-effect relationship can be inferred. The amount of schooling reported by the homemaker is taken as an indicator of possible differences in standards, point of view, scientific information, income available for household uses, and the like.

**Schooling and the work period.** Farm homemakers of the three schooling groups varied little in total work period. Farm and other work varied slightly, those with larger amounts of schooling doing more outside work.

**Distribution of homemaking time.** The groups differed in the way they divided their homemaking time. Care of members of the household varied directly with the amount of school training—the net difference between the elementary and college group being about 1½ hours a week when differences in the number and ages of children are taken into consideration.

Time given to other divisions of homemaking activities varied inversely with amount of schooling. The greatest variation was in time given to food, a difference of 2½ hours a week between the elementary and college groups.

Differences among schooling groups were greater with non-farm than with farm homemakers. The most pronounced difference was in the time given to farm work, which was much greater for those with only elementary schooling. This would seem to indicate a difference in income, but it may be that the outdoor work of non-farm homemakers should be considered, in part at least, a leisure activity.

Care of members of the household varied directly with the amount of schooling, as with farm homemakers, the average difference being 2 hours where that of farm homemakers was  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours a week. Another pronounced difference was in time given to the management of the household, which was 2 hours a week more for the college group than for those with elementary training (Table XIII).

TABLE XIII. DIFFERENCES IN WORK DONE BY FARM AND NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS, CLASSIFIED AS TO AMOUNT OF SCHOOLING

Activities	Group average—time per week—					
	Farm homemakers			Non-country non-farm homemakers		
	Elementary	High school	College	Elementary	High school	College
Total work period .....	Hr.-Min. 62-58	Hr.-Min. 64-32	Hr.-Min. 63-16	Hr.-Min. 56-07	Hr.-Min. 56-27	Hr.-Min. 53-47
Homemaking .....	51-52	51-55	50-34	49-06	52-39	51-57
Care of members of household .....	2-31	4-20	5-34	2-40	5-56	8-07
All other homemaking.....	49-21	47-35	45-00	46-26	46-43	43-50
Farm work .....	10-21	11-35	11-15	6-02	1-24	-35
Other work .....	-45	1-02	1-27	-59	2-24	1-15

**Schooling of homemakers and their use of personal time.** College-trained farm women did not differ greatly from the others in the proportion



*Work days are longest when there are little children and none old enough to help.*



of their personal time given to leisure uses. Interest in the connection between the amount of schooling and ways of spending leisure centers about the four activities listed in Table XIV.

Homemakers of the elementary group averaged an hour a week more leisure than the high school and a half-hour more than the college group. With this difference in mind and considering the difference in interests of homemakers which arise from children's needs, it is apparent that homemakers with greater amounts of schooling devoted some of their leisure to meetings and study and to work for organizations to a somewhat greater extent than those with elementary schooling only.



*Interruptions and emergencies are greater time problems than long hours on the job.*

TABLE XIV. SELECTED LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS CLASSIFIED AS TO AMOUNT OF SCHOOLING

Amount of schooling	Reading		Meetings and study		Work for organizations		Outings and sports	
	Group average— time per week.	Homemakers spending some time.	Group average— time per week.	Homemakers spending some time.	Group average— time per week.	Homemakers spending some time.	Group average— time per week.	
	<i>Hr.-Min.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Hr.-Min.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Hr.-Min.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Hr.-Min.</i>	
Elementary .....	7-03	54.4	1-59	41.1	1-21	28.9	-42	
High school .....	6-32	60.5	2-14	45.7	1-19	35.7	-42	
College .....	6-37	61.9	1-49	52.4	1-42	33.3	-39	



## CAN THE USE OF TIME BY HOMEMAKERS BE IMPROVED?

Do homemakers want shorter work days? Apparently the desire to reduce hours of labor is not so strong as that to redistribute the work period. We have noted that time not required for the necessities of feeding, clothing, and housing the family tends to be used for adding comfort and beauty, giving more time to children, or adding to the family income. It is likely also that work days are as long as they are partly because there are available no uses for leisure which would be as interesting as certain aspects of the homemaker's job.

**Time needs in the household.** Many of the time problems of farm homemakers are the result of the conflict between the desired standard and the time and money available for its attainment. This is particularly true of younger homemakers with whom the comfort-beauty aspects of home life seem relatively more important, while the margin of time and money available for such uses is less than in later years.

This conflict is indicated in the replies of homemakers to the question, "Do you feel the need of more time for your homemaking? If so, for what particular activities?"

More than a third of those answering replied in the affirmative. The differences in replies of farm and non-farm homemakers relating to the care of children correspond to differences in the size and composition of families (Table XV).

TABLE XV. HOMEMAKING ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH COOPERATORS EXPRESSED THE NEED OF MORE TIME, AND PROPORTION OF FARM AND NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS SPECIFYING EACH

Activity	Homemakers*	
	Farm	Non-country non-farm
	%	%
Housework .....	5.1	2.2
Cleaning and keeping house in order .....	8.2	4.3
Cooking .....	4.0	.....
Canning .....	.....	2.2
Laundry .....	3.1	.....
Mending .....	7.1	4.3
Sewing .....	33.7	37.0
Making home more convenient and attractive.....	8.2	4.3
Management of household .....	2.0	4.3
Care and training of children .....	33.7	50.0
Family life .....	10.2	6.5
Other replies .....	.....	.....

\*Proportion of the homemakers who answered the question.

**Fatigue from housework.** The chief causes of fatigue are too long hours; muscle strain from standing, lifting, and the like; nerve strain from interruptions, emergencies, and multiplicity of responsibilities; poor working conditions in regard to light, ventilation, and tools.

It is interesting to note the connection between fatigue and dislike for specific tasks shown in Table XVI. Dishes are irksome but not tiring, while laundry work is more tiring than tiresome. Cleaning is both, and sewing, neither. Cooking is more irksome than fatiguing.

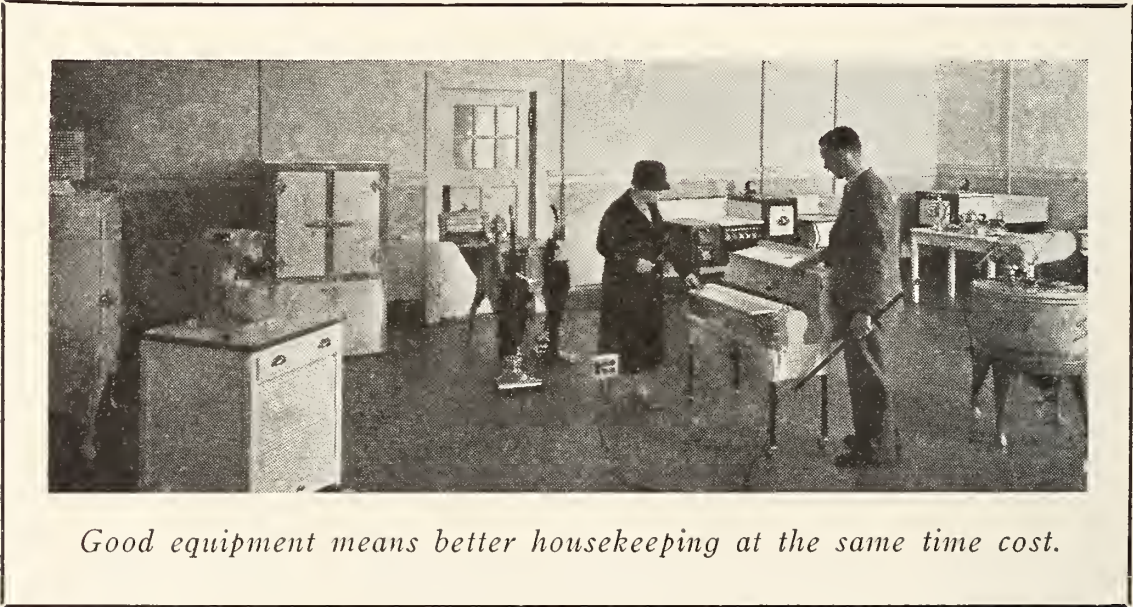
Differences between farm and non-farm homemakers reflect differences in the extent to which their homes are equipped for efficient work.

TABLE XVI. PROPORTION OF FARM AND NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS EXPRESSING DISLIKE FOR SPECIFIC TASKS AND EXPERIENCING FATIGUE FROM THEM

Activity	Homemakers†					
	Farm			Non-country non-farm		
	Spending time during week studied	Expressing dislike	Experiencing fatigue	Spending time during week studied	Expressing dislike	Experiencing fatigue
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cooking .....	99.7	11.8	1.7	99.4	12.3	2.3
Dishes .....	100.0	22.3	2.2	97.4	21.3	1.1
Canning .....	36.1	2.4	0.6	20.1	0.0	1.1
Cleaning and straightening ....	100.0	34.1	31.1	99.4	52.5	48.3
Carrying water .....	20.1	0.5	2.8	5.2	-----	-----
Laundry* .....	-----	12.3	43.5	-----	4.1	33.3
Washing .....	96.9	12.8	26.0	96.8	13.9	15.0
Ironing .....	92.0	9.5	7.9	94.2	9.8	11.5
Laundry total .....	-----	34.6	77.4	-----	27.8	59.8
Sewing .....	71.2	3.3	1.7	79.9	9.0	2.3
Mending .....	82.3	6.6	-----	85.7	3.3	-----
Care of children .....	65.3	0.5	0.6	81.2	-----	5.8

\*Not specified, or washing and ironing.  
†Proportion of the homemakers who answered the questions.

**Efficiency in household management.** Where the situation in which work periods are long is a temporary one, as at the time in the homemaking career when all the children are little, careful work scheduling and simplification of living are the means employed by efficient homemakers to keep their work days from becoming too long. In any situation the most effective way of cutting time-costs is to take certain processes out of the household, such as sewing, bread making, and the heavy part of washing and ironing, but this is often impracticable in rural communities owing to lack of available outside service, and money is usually lacking for utilizing to the fullest possible extent such services as may be available.



Good equipment means better housekeeping at the same time cost.



In this connection it is well to emphasize the relation between wisdom in spending money and the time required to keep up a certain standard of housekeeping. Such things as linoleum, knitted textiles, concrete walks about the house, and chicken-wire fences may be regarded as work-preventives. There has been more progress along this line than in the development of time-saving mechanical devices for household use.

Unquestionably the managerial ability of the homemaker is more important than any other factor. The wise spending of time is a matter of developing a sense of the relative importance of its possible uses, quite as much as acquiring skill and speed in turning off work. It also involves the wise spending of money with a view to reducing the housekeeper's load. The training of the modern farm homemaker places less emphasis on her function as a producer than on her managerial responsibility.

**Leisure needs of homemakers.** Cooperators were asked the question, "If you had more leisure time, in what ways would you like to use it (other than in homemaking for which you feel the need of more time, or in work other than homemaking)?"

In spite of the wording of the question, a fourth of the listings of country women and a tenth of those of the non-country non-farm group were activities which are considered as homemaking in our classification. These are obviously the recreational aspects of the homemaker's job, undertaken partly because of interest in the process. The four most important ones, judging from the percentage of homemakers listing them, are hand work (fancy work, weaving, etc.), sewing, care of children, and care of flowers and yard.

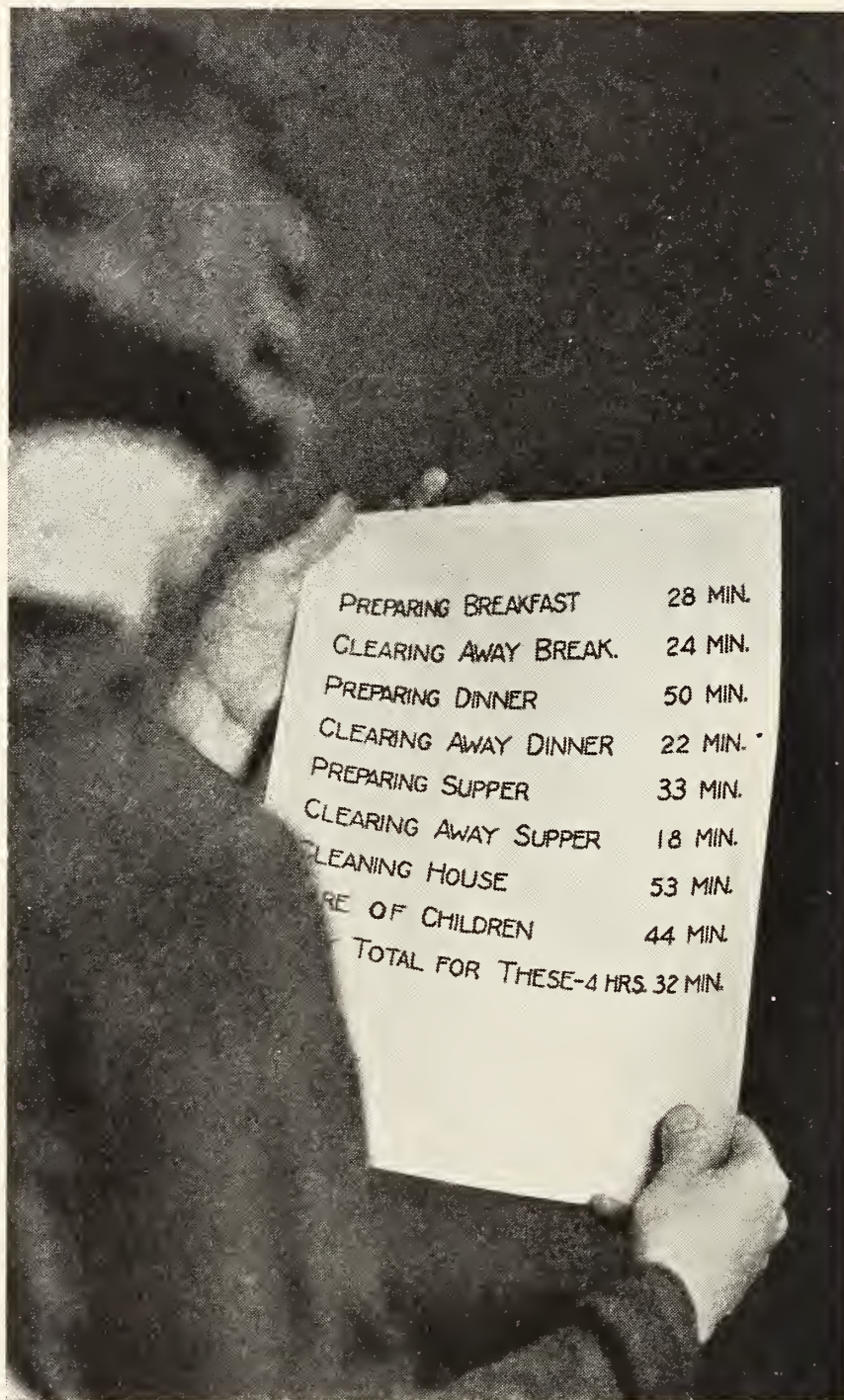
Why did country homemakers list more homemaking activities than did the non-country non-farm group? The latter group have better equipped homes and use commercial services more freely; consequently more of their homemaking time goes to its comfort-beauty aspects. If our country homes were better equipped, and if it were possible to utilize commercial services to a greater extent, country homemakers would use more time for these aspects of homemaking, as our equipment study showed.

Farm homemakers have about the same personal needs as those not living on farms. Thirty-five percent want more time for reading. Twenty-nine percent want more time for study and self-improvement. Twenty-one percent would like more time for community activities and helping neighbors, while 9 percent would do more church work. Recreational needs are not so keenly felt—only 14 percent want more social life, 14 percent vacation and travel, and 2 percent outdoor life.

**Changing rural conditions.** Money can solve many time problems by making it possible to utilize to a greater extent the commercial services now available, to hire help to meet extra household demands, to provide better household equipment, and to enjoy to a greater degree such uses of leisure as require a money expenditure. Any increase in farm incomes will help to solve the time problems of farm homemakers.

Changes in farm management are helping to solve the farm woman's time problem. As machinery replaces hired labor, as the farmer levels his work days and takes more frequent vacations, as women are not so often called upon to drop their work to meet outside emergencies, homemakers will have shorter work days and less heavy physical labor.





PREPARING BREAKFAST	28 MIN.
CLEARING AWAY BREAK.	24 MIN.
PREPARING DINNER	50 MIN.
CLEARING AWAY DINNER	22 MIN.
PREPARING SUPPER	33 MIN.
CLEARING AWAY SUPPER	18 MIN.
CLEANING HOUSE	53 MIN.
CARE OF CHILDREN	44 MIN.
TOTAL FOR THESE-4 HRS.	32 MIN.

*The woman of the average income, trying to bring about a reasonable working day will find that no element in her complex problem compares in importance with the study of herself as a worker.*

—ABEL in "Successful Family Life on the Moderate Income."

Every phase of rural development influences the time distribution of homemakers—roads, telephones and power lines, laundry, bakery and meat “wagons,” hospitals, facilities for the use of leisure. The trend is toward a reduction in the number of processes carried on in the home.

## HOW TO MAKE A TIME SCHEDULE

A written time schedule is of value to the housekeeper who has not yet arrived at a satisfactory adjustment between desires and needs and the time available for their accomplishment. Bases for such a schedule are these:

1. A calendar (by months) of seasonal tasks—canning, gardening, poultry work, yard and flowers—with an estimate of time needed for them.
2. A list of other non-routine tasks which may be done when seasonal work is not pressing, such as sewing and house cleaning, and time needed for them.
3. Estimates of time needed for daily and weekly activities. These may be based on averages in this bulletin, with modifications to suit one's conditions.

The purpose of the time schedule is to establish a system which allows for extra tasks as well as every-day responsibilities. The amount of physical effort required of the homemaker should be about the same for each working day.

The written schedule should be made out for a week. It should include time for:

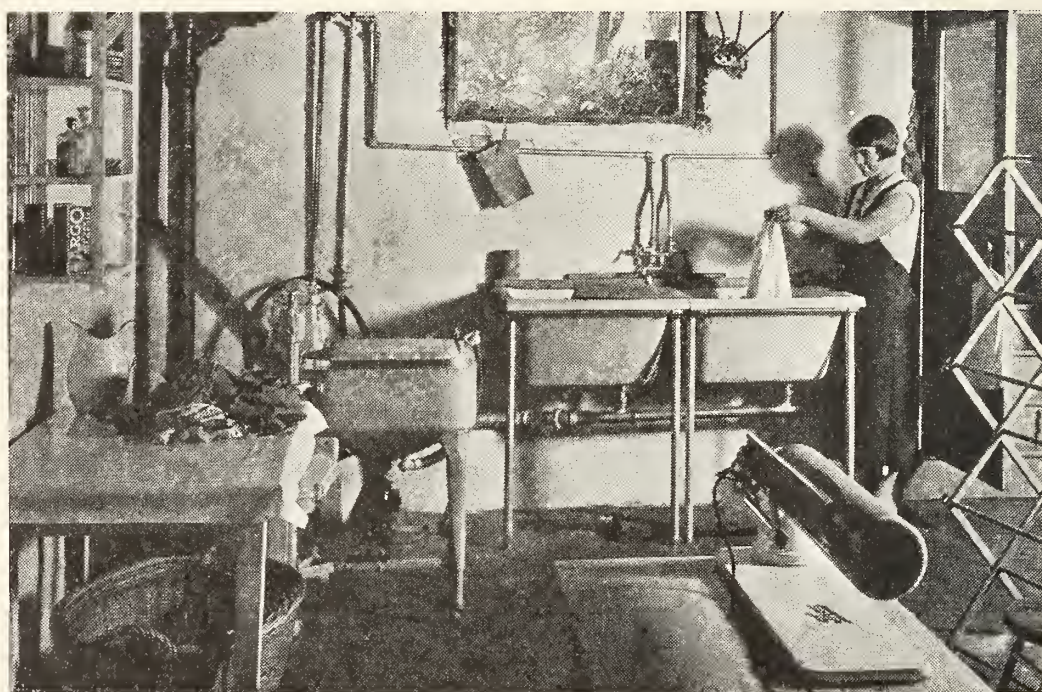
1. Every-day tasks—meals, cleaning, fires, outdoor chores, care of children.
2. Weekly tasks—laundry, mending, cleaning, shopping.
3. One's personal requirements—rest, social life, etc.
4. Extra work for days not filled with daily or weekly routine.

The value of such a schedule is not in following it out to the letter. Its greatest value is in helping a homemaker to see what are her real time problems.





*System in housework reduces time costs.*



*Powered household machinery frees the homemaker's time.*



# Appendix A

## DETAILED AND SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

TABLE XVII. PARTS OF STATE WHERE HOMES OF COOPERATORS WERE LOCATED

Parts of Oregon	Proportion of homes from which records were received			Percentage of total farm population of Oregon residing in each area*
	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm	
	%	%	%	%
Columbia County and Willamette Valley	78.8	94.4	84.4	54.4
Coast counties (West of Coast Range)....	11.1	2.8	5.9	7.2
Southwestern counties .....	3.5	0.0	7.1	9.5
Central and Eastern counties (East of Cascade Range) .....	6.6	2.8	2.6	28.9
Total .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

\*United States Agricultural Census, 1925.

TABLE XVIII. PLACE OF BIRTH OF HOMEMAKER

Place of birth	Proportion of homemakers reporting place of birth			Percentage of total white population of Oregon*
	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm	
	%	%	%	%
Canada .....	1.8	2.9	1.3	1.8
British Isles .....	1.5	1.4	2.7	2.0
Germany .....	1.5	0.0	0.7	1.8
Scandinavian countries .....	0.7	0.0	1.3	2.8
Other foreign countries .....	-----	-----	-----	4.9
Total for foreign countries .....	5.5	4.3	6.0	13.3
Oregon .....	41.1	24.3	23.8	37.8
Other states .....	53.4	71.4	70.2	48.3
Total for United States .....	94.5	95.7	94.0	86.1
Outlying possessions of U. S., etc. ....	-----	-----	-----	0.6

\*United States Census, 1920.

TABLE XIX. VOCATIONS FOR WHICH HOMEMAKERS HAD RECEIVED TRAINING

Kind of training	Proportion of homemakers who reported training		
	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm
	%	%	%
Teaching .....	15.0	18.7	21.2
Homemaking .....	11.2	14.1	21.2
Business .....	7.7	9.4	18.5
Music .....	5.8	3.1	4.1
Nursing .....	2.7	3.1	3.4
Dressmaking or millinery .....	1.5	4.7	2.1
Other .....	3.1	9.4	6.8

TABLE XX. KIND OF WORK DONE FOR PAY BY HOMEMAKERS

Kind of work done for pay	Proportion of homemakers who reported work done for pay		
	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm
	%	%	%
Farm labor .....	12.6	11.8	2.5
Canneries and factories .....	8.4	3.9	8.3
Millinery and dressmaking .....	10.5	5.9	4.2
Retail selling .....	7.9	7.8	20.8
Teaching (school) .....	38.7	53.0	44.2
General housework and care of children .....	23.6	13.7	10.8
Feeding and lodging public .....	5.2	3.9	3.3
Office work .....	13.1	29.4	26.7
Telephone exchange .....	4.2	5.9	8.3

TABLE XXI. NUMBER AND KIND OF PRODUCTS SOLD

Number of products sold	Number of farms	Kind of product sold						
		Fruits	Vegetables	Poultry	Dairy	Live-stock	Grain	Other
		Percentage of farms	Percentage of farms	Percentage of farms	Percentage of farms	Percentage of farms	Percentage of farms	Percentage of farms
One product .....	88	32.9	5.7	6.8	30.7	6.8	11.4	5.7
Two products .....	100	33.0	14.0	30.0	61.0	25.0	31.0	6.0
Three products .....	61	49.2	34.4	26.2	55.7	42.6	60.7	31.2
Four products .....	16	43.8	43.8	50.0	81.2	43.8	68.7	68.7
Five products .....	5	100.0	40.0	80.0	80.0	100.0	80.0	20.0



Good roads, telephones and the R.F.D. are bringing city advantages to the country housewife.

TABLE XXII. OCCUPATION OF CHIEF INCOME-EARNER FOR COUNTRY NON-FARM AND NON-COUNTRY NON-FARM FAMILIES

Occupation	Proportion of income earners*		Proportion of white males in Oregon engaged in each (U.S. Census, 1920)
	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm	
	%	%	%
Fishing, logging, lumbering, etc. ....	7.4	1.5	6.9
Mining .....		0.8	1.2
Manufacturing and Mechanical Industries	35.2	20.9	42.8
Transportation .....	24.1	11.9	13.9
Trade .....	14.8	21.6	16.1
Public service .....	3.7	4.5	2.3
Professional service .....	11.1	35.8	6.0
Domestic and personal service .....		2.2	4.9
Clerical .....	3.7	0.8	5.9

\*Proportion for those listing specific occupations.

TABLE XXIII. OCCUPATION-LOCATION GROUPS INCLUDED IN THIS STUDY COMPARED WITH THOSE OF OREGON'S WHITE POPULATION, AS TO NUMBER AND AGES OF CHILDREN

Group	Proportion of all persons included in households of group, who are under 19 years of age	Proportion of persons under 19 years of age, who are			
		Under one year	1 to 5 years	6 to 14 years	15 to 18 years
	%	%	%	%	%
Families of cooperators:					
Farm .....	55.4	3.4	23.4	57.7	15.5
Country non-farm .....	47.0	4.3	24.5	63.3	7.9
Non-country non-farm .....	45.0	3.2	34.7	51.1	11.0
*White population of Oregon:					
Rural .....	38.0	5.2	27.7	48.1	19.0
Urban .....	29.5	5.0	27.1	48.7	19.2

\*Based on United States Census, 1920.

TABLE XXIV. THE WORK PERIOD OF FARM HOMEMAKERS

Time divisions		Homemakers reporting some time spent	Time spent by homemaker during week			Proportion of work period
			Group average	Highest	Lowest	
		%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%
All work .....	288	100.0	63-44	91-20	28-35	100.0
Homemaking .....	288	100.0	51-34	87-40	21-50	80.9
Farm work .....	280	97.2	11-15	45-15	-10	17.7
Other work .....	51	17.7	-35	45-55	-10	1.4



TABLE XXV. DISTRIBUTION OF FARM HOMEMAKERS WITH RESPECT TO LENGTH OF PERIOD AND PROPORTION OF EACH WORK-GROUP WHO DID NO OTHER WORK THAN HOMEMAKING

Time spent at work during week	Homemakers	Proportion who did no other work than homemaking	
		%	%
25 and less than 30 hours.....	1	0.3	-----
30 and less than 35 hours.....	0	-----	-----
35 and less than 40 hours.....	2	0.7	50.0
40 and less than 45 hours.....	6	2.1	16.7
45 and less than 50 hours.....	58	6.3	5.5
50 and less than 55 hours.....	37	12.8	-----
55 and less than 60 hours.....	42	14.6	2.4
60 and less than 65 hours.....	56	19.4	-----
65 and less than 70 hours.....	48	16.7	2.1
70 and less than 75 hours.....	38	13.2	-----
75 and less than 80 hours.....	18	6.3	-----
80 and less than 85 hours.....	9	3.1	-----
85 and less than 90 hours.....	10	3.5	-----
90 and less than 95 hours.....	3	1.0	-----

TABLE XXVI. HOMEMAKING AND FARM WORK DONE BY THE HOMEMAKERS COMPOSING EACH WORK-GROUP; AND THE PROPORTION OF EACH WORK-GROUP WHO DID SOME OTHER WORK.

Time spent at work	Proportion of work-group spending some time in		Group average-time per week given to		Proportion of work period given to	
	Farm work	Other work	Home-making	Farm work	Home-making	Farm work
	%	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%	%
40 and less than 45 hours.....	83.3	16.7	39-18	3-38	91.3	8.4
45 and less than 50 hours.....	94.4	16.7	39-29	7-37	82.6	15.9
50 and less than 55 hours.....	100.0	10.8	47-20	5-33	89.2	10.5
55 and less than 60 hours.....	97.6	14.3	47-39	9-20	82.6	16.2
60 and less than 65 hours.....	98.2	16.1	50-50	10-54	81.4	17.5
65 and less than 70 hours.....	97.9	20.8	55-02	10-54	81.9	16.2
70 and less than 75 hours.....	97.4	26.3	55-39	15-01	77.0	20.8
75 and less than 80 hours.....	100.0	22.2	56-10	18-17	72.7	23.6
80 and less than 85 hours.....	100.0	22.2	66-31	15-51	80.7	19.2

TABLE XXVII. THE RELATION BETWEEN TIME SPENT BY FARM HOMEMAKERS IN THEIR HOMEMAKING ACTIVITIES, AND THE MANNER OF ITS DISTRIBUTION

Time spent in all homemaking activities	Proportion of time spent in all homemaking, given to					
	Food	House	Care of mem- Manage- Clothingbers of ment of House- and house- house- work textiles hold hold routine*			
			%	%	%	%
21 and less than 28 hours.....	63.3	17.4	13.2	0.4	2.0	84.3
28 and less than 35 hours.....	49.2	21.5	21.8	1.8	3.6	77.9
35 and less than 42 hours.....	52.6	19.7	18.9	2.7	3.7	78.2
42 and less than 49 hours.....	49.6	18.2	21.9	3.7	4.2	75.0
49 and less than 56 hours.....	47.3	17.9	22.3	6.5	3.4	71.7
56 and less than 63 hours.....	47.1	17.8	22.3	8.5	2.6	71.7
63 and less than 70 hours.....	43.5	16.8	24.1	11.2	2.4	64.5
70 and less than 77 hours.....	41.4	13.6	20.6	20.0	2.8	69.0
77 and less than 84 hours.....	33.4	18.2	32.8	13.7	0.0	70.2
84 and less than 91 hours.....	30.1	9.6	23.2	33.8	1.6	48.7

\*See Table II for definition.

TABLE XXVIII. FOOD ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS; GROUP AVERAGES FOR TIME SPENT IN THESE ACTIVITIES BY NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS

Activity	Farm homemakers					Non-country non-farm home-makers Group average time per week in food activities
	Home-makers spending some time	Group average	Highest	Lowest	Proportion of average time for all food activities	
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%	Hr.-Min.
1. Preparing breakfast .....	99.7	3-16	6-40	-15	13.4	2-30
2. Preparing dinner .....	99.7	5-49	14-40	2-00	23.8	5-32
3. Preparing supper .....	99.7	3-52	8-15	-15	15.8	3-09
4. Total for preparing regular meals (1+2+3) .....	.....	12-57	.....	.....	53.0	11-11
5. Clearing away breakfast .....	99.0	2-44	7-10	-10	11.2	2-03
6. Clearing away dinner .....	100.0	2-36	7-00	-10	10.6	2-20
7. Clearing away supper .....	97.9	2-06	5-30	-15	8.6	1-31
8. Total for clearing away regular meals (5+6+7) .....	.....	7-26	.....	.....	30.4	5-54
9. Total for regular meals (4+8) .....	.....	20-23	.....	.....	83.4	17-05
10. Preparing other meals .....	96.2	2-31	11-00	-15	10.3	1-49
11. Clearing away other meals ....	23.3	-04	1-55	-05	0.3	-05
12. Total for other meals (10+11) .....	.....	2-35	.....	.....	10.6	1-54
13. Total for preparing all meals (4+10) .....	.....	15-28	.....	.....	63.3	13-00
14. Total for clearing away all meals (8+11) .....	.....	7-30	.....	.....	30.7	5-59
15. Total for all meals (13+14)....	.....	22-58	.....	.....	94.0	18-59
16. Refreshments for social affairs (Preparing and clearing away) .....	4.2	-05	7-00	-15	0.3	-10
17. Preservation of food (Preparing and clearing away) ....	36.1	1-15	12-15	-10	5.1	-35
18. Other and not specified food activities .....	34.4	-09	4-05	-05	0.6	-11

TABLE XXIX. HOUSE ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS; GROUP AVERAGES FOR TIME SPENT IN THESE ACTIVITIES BY NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS

Activity	Farm homemakers					Non-country non-farm home-makers Group average time per week in house activities
	Home-makers spending some time	Time spent per week			Proportion of average time for all house activities	
		Group average	Highest	Lowest		
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%	Hr.-Min.
1. Daily and weekly cleaning and straightening .....	100.0	6-12	13-05	1-20	67.8	6-26
2. Extra cleaning and straightening .....	39.9	-33	18-10	-05	6.0	-40
3. Total cleaning and straightening (1+2) .....	-----	6-45	-----	-----	73.8	7-06
4. Care of fires .....	84.4	-56	10-35	-05	10.2	-39
5. Care of water supply .....	20.1	-07	2-20	-05	1.3	-01
6. Total for daily and weekly cleaning, fires and water (1+4+5) .....	-----	7-15	-----	-----	79.3	7-06
7. Making, adjusting, installing and repairing .....	17.0	-12	6-35	-10	2.2	-17
8. Care of house surroundings....	53.8	1-00	8-50	-05	10.9	1-07
9. Other and not specified activities connected with the house .....	41.7	-09	3-00	-05	1.6	-08

TABLE XXX. CLOTHING AND TEXTILE ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS; GROUP AVERAGES FOR TIME SPENT IN THESE ACTIVITIES BY NON-COUNTRY NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS

Activity	Farm homemakers				Proportion of average time for clothing and textile activities	Non-country non-farm homemakers Group average time per week in clothing and textile activities
	Home-makers spending some time	Time spent per week				
		Group average	Highest	Lowest		
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%	Hr.-Min.
1. Regular washing .....	96.9	3-31	16-30	-20	31.0	3-09
2. Regular ironing .....	92.0	2-01	7-40	-10	17.8	2-20
3. Total for regular laundry (1+2) .....	.....	5-32	.....	.....	48.8	5-29
4. Extra laundry .....	9.7	-05	4-00	-05	0.7	-11
5. Total for laundry done at home (3+4) .....	.....	5-37	.....	.....	49.5	5-40
6. Laundry sent out .....	2.8	-00	-30	-10	0.0	-03
7. Total for laundry (5+6) .....	.....	5-37	.....	.....	49.5	5-43
8. Mending .....	82.3	1-26	15-35	-05	12.6	1-17
9. Sewing .....	71.2	3-06	26-45	-10	27.3	3-30
10. Fancy work .....	28.5	-55	16-20	-10	8.1	-41
11. Total for mending, sewing, and fancy work (8+9+10) .....	.....	5-27	.....	.....	48.0	5-28
12. Other and not specified activities connected with clothing and textiles .....	49.0	-17	4-00	-05	2.5	-18

TABLE XXXI. PHYSICAL CARE AND OTHER CARE OF MEMBERS OF HOUSEHOLD GIVEN BY FARM HOMEMAKERS, IN COMPARISON WITH COUNTRY NON-FARM AND NON-COUNTRY NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS

Activity	Farm homemakers				Proportion of time spent in all care of members of household	
	Home-makers spending some time	Time per week		Proportion of time spent in all care of members of household	Country non-farm home-makers	Non-country non-farm home-makers
		Group average	Highest amount			
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%	%	%
1. Physical care of children.....	54.5	2-13	22-25	58.1	64.2	67.2
2. Physical care of others.....	7.6	-02	1-55	0.8	0.0	0.2
3. Total physical care (1+2).....	.....	2-15	.....	58.9	64.2	67.4
4. Other care .....	52.1	-54	13-10	23.6	23.5	23.3
5. Not specified care .....	36.4	-40	17-50	17.5	12.3	9.3



TABLE XXXII. MANAGERIAL ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS; GROUP AVERAGES FOR TIME SPENT IN THESE ACTIVITIES BY NON-COUNTRY NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS

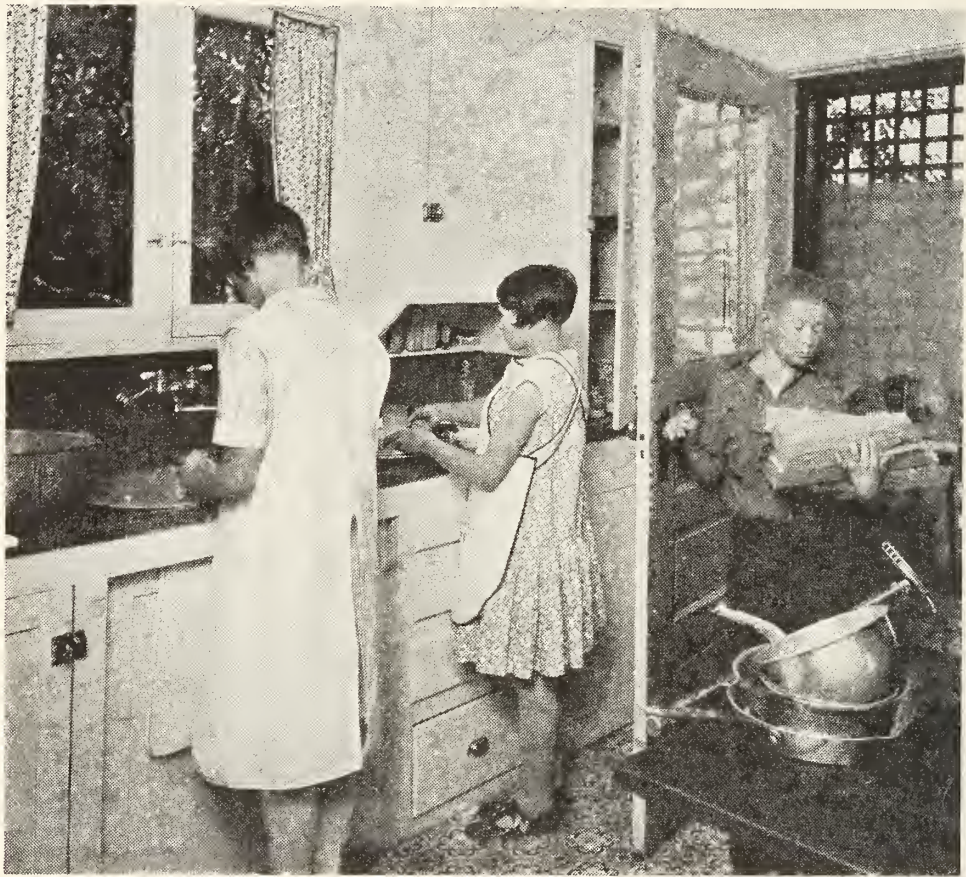
Activity	Farm homemakers				Non-country non-farm homemakers Group	
	Home-makers spending some time	Time spent per week—			Proportion of average week in time for management activities	time per week in management of household
		Group average	Highest	Lowest		
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%	Hr.-Min.
1. Food purchasing .....	43.7	-16	2-00	-05	16.2	-36
2. Other and not specified purchasing .....	56.6	-43	6-30	-05	43.4	1-09
3. Total for purchasing (1+2)....	.....	-59	.....	.....	59.6	1-45
4. Study of the use of time by homemakers .....	27.4	-15	5-05	-05	15.2	-15
5. Planning and recording which concerns the finances of the household .....	13.9	-03	1-10	-05	3.0	-10
6. Other and not specified planning and recording .....	23.3	-09	3-05	-05	9.1	-16
7. Total for planning and recording (4+5+6) .....	.....	-27	.....	.....	27.3	-41
8. Supervising work of household	1.7	-00	1-25	-05	0.0	-05
9. Other and not specified activities which concern the management of the household .....	34.7	-13	5-50	-05	13.1	-20

TABLE XXXIII. FARM ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS

Division of farm work	Home-makers spending some time	Time spent—		
		Average per week—		Highest amount reported
		For entire group	For those engaged in activity	
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.
Fruits and vegetables .....	64.9	2-51	3-53	33-55
Poultry .....	79.2	3-27	4-21	34-40
Dairy .....	85.4	3-36	4-12	29-05
Livestock .....	25.7	-34	2-12	13-30
Field crops .....	6.9	-05	1-11	3-15
Farm management .....	35.4	-22	1-03	10-00
Other and not specified .....	33.3	-33	1-38	10-35
Going and returning .....	20.5	-07	-35	2-00

TABLE XXXIV. AMOUNT AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONAL TIME OF FARM HOMEMAKERS

Activity	Home-makers spending some time	Time per week			Proportion of all personal time
		Group average	Highest	Lowest	
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	%
1. Sleep and rest (night) .....	.....	59-27	75-40	44-50	57.9
2. Sleep and rest (day) .....	84.4	2-48	23-35	-10	2.7
3. Sleep and rest total (1+2) .....	.....	62-15	.....	.....	60.6
4. Eating meals .....	.....	8-53	.....	.....	8.6
5. Care of person .....	.....	4-56	9-50	1-05	4.8
6. Medical and nursing care .....	16.7	-09	5-00	-05	0.2
7. Other and not specified physical care of self .....	11.5	-04	1-50	-05	0.1
8. Physical care of self total (4+5+6+ 7) .....	.....	14-02	.....	.....	13.7
9. Sleep and rest + physical care of self (3+8) .....	.....	76-17	.....	.....	74.3
10. Leisure activities .....	.....	23-48	48-25	2-20	23.2
11. Management of personal affairs .....	15.3	-06	3-30	-05	0.1
12. Other and not specified personal activities .....	8.3	-06	6-00	-05	0.1
13. Going and returning—personal .....	94.1	2-25	14-35	-05	2.3
14. All personal affairs .....	.....	102-42	139-10	75-05	.....



Children are the chief source of household help.



TABLE XXXV. AMOUNT AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONAL TIME OF FARM HOMEMAKERS, WHEN CLASSIFIED AS TO TIME SPENT AT WORK

Time spent at work during week	Number of home-makers	Group average—time per week—					
		All per-sonal ac-tivities	Sleep and rest	Physical care self	Leisure activities	Other personal activities	Going and returning
		Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.
25 and less than 30 hours	1	139-10	56-45	19-25	48-25	-00	14-35
30 and less than 35 hours	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
35 and less than 40 hours	2	123-53	60-30	13-47	44-35	-53	4-08
40 and less than 45 hours	6	121-47	66-59	14-28	36-39	-08	3-33
45 and less than 50 hours	18	118-23	65-05	15-02	34-15	-16	3-45
50 and less than 55 hours	37	113-19	65-04	14-10	30-35	-14	3-16
55 and less than 60 hours	42	108-27	64-12	14-41	26-44	-09	2-41
60 and less than 65 hours	56	103-45	62-14	14-27	24-38	-15	2-11
65 and less than 70 hours	48	99-22	62-22	13-35	20-46	-18	2-21
70 and less than 75 hours	38	94-38	60-22	13-29	18-44	-08	1-55
75 and less than 80 hours	18	89-39	58-08	13-52	15-59	-02	1-38
80 and less than 85 hours	9	84-58	56-57	13-37	13-41	-00	-43
85 and less than 90 hours	10	79-42	56-03	12-42	10-07	-04	-46
90 and less than 95 hours	3	76-01	59-43	8-23	7-55	-00	-00

TABLE XXXVI. LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS

Activity	Home-makers spending some time	—Time per week—			Proportion of leisure time
		Group average	Highest amount reported		
	%	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.		%
1. Reading .....	100.0	6-44	24-35		28.3
2. Radio .....	26.4	1-05	14-20		4.6
3. Correspondence and telephoning..	86.1	1-22	7-20		5.7
4. Informal social life.....	99.3	7-03	26-10		29.7
5. Social affairs .....	25.3	-59	13-35		4.1
6. Entertainments, plays, etc. ....	21.5	-32	6-15		2.2
7. Outings and sports .....	33.7	-42	14-45		2.9
8. Meetings and study .....	59.4	2-05	12-30		8.8
9. Work for organizations .....	45.1	1-22	15-40		5.7
10. Care of persons not members of household .....	37.8	-34	14-35		2.4
11. Other and not specified leisure....	74.3	1-20	12-00		5.6

TABLE XXXVII. MAJOR USES OF LEISURE TIME OF FARM HOMEMAKERS CLASSIFIED AS TO TIME SPENT AT WORK

Time spent at work during week	Proportion of total leisure time—					
	Informal social life	Reading	Communi-nity work*	Social af-fairs and enter-tain-ments	Outings and sports	Radio
	%	%	%	%	%	%
35 and less than 40 hours	32.0	14.3	17.9	11.7	16.5	0.7
40 and less than 45 hours	27.6	25.1	17.7	8.5	2.4	11.5
45 and less than 50 hours	23.1	28.5	23.1	6.8	0.9	6.8
50 and less than 55 hours	27.4	29.7	19.6	7.7	3.8	3.6
55 and less than 60 hours	30.4	26.7	14.9	7.9	2.7	6.4
60 and less than 65 hours	32.3	27.7	17.7	4.5	3.0	4.5
65 and less than 70 hours	32.1	29.7	17.3	4.6	1.8	3.8
70 and less than 75 hours	30.2	28.0	11.9	8.1	2.0	2.9
75 and less than 80 hours	34.2	29.2	10.0	6.3	3.6	1.9
80 and less than 85 hours	22.3	37.6	8.0	2.9	9.8	0.0
85 and less than 90 hours	30.1	33.1	9.6	3.6	5.9	3.5
90 and less than 95 hours	12.2	55.2	3.2	-----	-----	-----

\*Meetings and study + work for organizations + care of persons not members of household.



TABLE XXXVIII. TYPES OF READING, MEETINGS AND STUDY, WORK FOR ORGANIZATIONS, AND ENTERTAINMENTS TO WHICH HOMEMAKERS DEVOTED TIME

Activity	Proportion of homemakers spending some time			Proportion of time spent in each type of leisure activity		
	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm	Farm	Country non-farm	Non-country non-farm
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Reading:						
1. Newspapers and current events.....	88.5	88.7	94.8	34.2	34.1	35.3
2. Fiction .....	29.5	23.9	29.9	7.9	6.3	9.0
3. Religion .....	16.7	21.1	11.0	3.7	6.1	2.5
4. Homemaking .....	11.5	9.9	18.2	1.5	0.9	2.9
5. Farming .....	9.7	.....	1.0	1.2	.....	0.2
6. Other work .....	0.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Other reading .....	9.0	11.3	14.9	1.5	2.3	2.9
8. Not specified reading .....	85.1	83.1	87.0	50.0	50.3	47.2
Meetings and study:						
1. Religion .....	44.4	38.0	55.2	52.0	43.1	46.2
2. Community and civic .....	9.0	16.9	13.0	8.8	13.1	7.9
3. Homemaking .....	2.8	0.0	9.7	3.2	0.0	7.9
4. Farming .....	7.3	7.0	1.3	11.2	6.5	1.0
5. Other work .....	0.3	1.4	0.6	.....	3.3	1.0
6. Other and not specified meetings and study .....	19.4	32.4	33.8	24.8	34.0	36.0
Work for organizations:						
1. Religious .....	18.1	15.5	25.3	34.2	26.5	35.0
2. Community and civic .....	17.0	18.3	25.3	25.6	37.4	32.5
3. Homemaking .....	1.4	.....	2.6	1.2	.....	0.9
4. Other and not specified work for organizations .....	23.6	22.5	27.3	39.0	36.1	31.6
Entertainments:						
1. Plays and concerts .....	4.2	8.5	14.9	12.5	23.0	29.2
2. Movies .....	4.9	8.5	18.3	18.7	23.0	37.5
3. Shows .....	3.5	8.5	5.8	12.5	27.0	12.5
4. Other and not specified entertainments .....	13.2	9.9	11.0	56.3	27.0	20.8

TABLE XXXIX. WORK PERIOD AND HOMEMAKING TIME OF FARM AND NON-FARM HOMEMAKERS CLASSIFIED AS TO AMOUNT OF HELP RECEIVED DURING WEEK

Amount of help during week	Farm		Non-country non-farm	
	All work	Homemaking	All work	Homemaking
	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.
None .....	63-32	49-19	53-42	46-18
Some—less than 5 hours.....	60-40	48-36	53-31	50-33
5 and less than 10 hours.....	66-35	55-00	57-10	55-15
10 and less than 15 hours.....	64-43	54-49	54-42	47-13
15 and less than 20 hours.....	65-22	53-06	54-35	53-31
20 and less than 25 hours.....	69-25	54-59	53-40	51-36
25 and less than 30 hours.....	67-13	57-07	55-10	54-12
30 and less than 35 hours.....	63-01	50-57	48-08	47-53
35 and less than 40 hours.....	60-45	56-20	66-53	66-48
40 or more hours .....	66-57	48-19	53-06	47-44

TABLE XL. NUMBER OF PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD AND AVERAGE TIME SPENT BY FARM HOMEMAKERS IN SELECTED HOMEMAKING ACTIVITIES

Number of persons in household	Number of house- holds*		Group average—time per week—							
	Meals equivalents	Lodging equivalents	Preparing meals	Clearing meals	Daily and weekly cleaning	Care of fires	Washing	Ironing	Mending	Management
			Hr.- Min.	Hr.- Min.	Hr.- Min.	Hr.- Min.	Hr.- Min.	Hr.- Min.	Hr.- Min.	Hr.- Min.
2 and less than 3....	62	57	13-38	7-03	5-39	1-04	2-58	1-52	-58	1-19
3 and less than 4....	73	58	15-01	7-54	6-11	-59	3-09	1-50	1-20	1-29
4 and less than 5....	62	74	16-10	7-39	6-26	-49	3-36	2-07	1-35	1-57
5 and less than 6....	39	54	16-12	7-22	6-47	-56	3-54	2-05	1-36	1-48
6 and less than 7....	27	27	17-57	7-35	5-47	-51	3-36	2-17	1-58	1-32
7 and less than 8....	8	11	18-43	8-12	6-27	-46	3-27	1-30	1-23	2-00

\*Averages for preparing and clearing away meals are based on the meals equivalents; other activities are based on lodgings equivalents.

TABLE XLI. PROPORTION OF FARM HOMEMAKERS CLASSIFIED AS TO CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD, WHO SPENT SOME TIME IN SELECTED LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Children in household	Homemakers spending some time						Number of activities per homemaker	
	Social affairs	Entertainments	Outings and sports	Meetings and study	Work for organizations	Care of persons outside household	Out of six enumerated here	Out of eight*
	%	%	%	%	%	%		
No children .....	24.7	24.7	29.2	51.7	40.4	39.3	2.10	3.22
All children over six ....	30.5	23.8	40.0	70.5	48.6	36.2	2.50	3.72
All children under six..	15.5	19.0	31.0	62.1	51.7	39.7	2.19	3.30
Some children under six	27.8	25.0	30.6	41.7	33.3	36.1	1.95	3.03

\*Radio and correspondence and telephone included.

TABLE XLII. PROPORTIONS OF MONTH-GROUPS OF FARM HOMEMAKERS WHO SPENT SOME TIME IN SELECTED HOMEMAKING ACTIVITIES

Month	Proportion of homemakers spending some time						
	Food preservation	Care of fires	Care of house surroundings	Purchasing for household (other than food)	Extra cleaning	Sewing	Fancy work
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
January .....	26.7	80.0	20.0	60.0	46.7	73.3	46.7
February .....	28.6	92.9	21.4	42.9	46.4	71.4	28.6
March .....	11.4	90.9	56.8	65.9	31.8	61.4	27.3
April .....	12.9	71.0	64.5	45.2	38.7	80.6	29.0
May .....	13.7	88.2	82.4	52.9	41.2	62.7	27.5
June .....	64.3	57.1	42.9	57.1	42.9	71.4	7.1
July .....	80.0	60.0	80.0	60.0	40.0	80.0	20.0
August .....	94.4	88.9	72.2	55.6	33.3	77.8	27.8
September .....	100.0	87.5	58.3	70.8	41.7	62.5	20.8
October .....	52.6	89.5	63.2	42.1	47.4	84.2	36.8
November .....	26.3	89.5	31.6	63.2	42.1	73.7	21.1
December .....	35.0	85.0	20.0	70.0	35.0	85.0	45.0

TABLE XLIII. ROUTINE AND SEASONAL ASPECTS OF THE THREE MAJOR FARM ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS

Month during which record was kept	Fruits and vegetables			Poultry			Dairy		
	Home-makers spending some but less than 3½ hours	Home-makers spending 3½ or more hours	Group average time per week	Home-makers spending some but less than 3½ hours	Home-makers spending 3½ or more hours	Group average time per week	Home-makers spending some but less than 3½ hours	Home-makers spending 3½ or more hours	Group average time per week
	%	%	Hr.-Min.	%	%	Hr.-Min.	%	%	Hr.-Min.
January ..	20.0	6.7	-09	60.0	6.7	2-08	66.7	20.0	2-00
February...	28.6	3.5	-38	32.1	28.6	2-14	60.7	21.4	2-21
March ....	27.3	15.9	2-44	40.9	36.4	3-40	50.0	36.4	3-28
April .....	61.3	12.9	2-16	45.2	45.2	5-23	29.0	61.3	4-57
May .....	41.2	37.2	3-07	41.2	49.0	5-04	41.2	37.2	3-40
June .....	28.6	71.4	6-00	35.7	57.2	6-30	64.3	21.4	2-13
July .....	0.0	100.0	8-42	60.0	40.0	3-50	80.0	20.0	1-22
August ....	50.0	50.0	4-57	55.6	33.3	2-48	44.4	38.9	4-09
September ..	50.0	45.8	4-01	58.3	12.5	1-06	37.5	45.8	3-49
October ..	63.1	5.3	1-03	52.6	10.6	1-28	42.1	52.6	4-41
November..	57.9	5.3	-45	68.4	10.5	2-14	42.1	52.6	4-10
December..	35.0	0.0	-28	40.0	35.0	2-41	40.0	40.0	3-43

TABLE XLIV. PERSONAL ACTIVITIES OF FARM HOMEMAKERS CLASSIFIED AS TO MONTHS IN WHICH RECORDS WERE KEPT

Month	Group average—time per week—								Number of activities out of 6†
	All personal activities	Sleep and rest + physical care of self	All leisure	Reading	Informal social life	Social affairs + entertainments	Outings and sports	Community work*	
	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	
January	106-20	80-04	23-36	8-37	5-26	-24	-13	5-02	2.07
February	105-21	76-14	26-50	8-42	6-48	1-42	-30	4-15	2.07
March	105-03	77-12	24-59	6-51	6-19	2-35	-35	5-02	2.39
April	103-47	76-24	24-19	6-44	7-47	1-04	-49	4-20	2.23
May	102-10	74-46	24-27	6-43	7-08	1-53	1-05	4-33	2.61
June	100-59	76-48	21-33	6-12	8-09	-37	-43	1-45	1.14
July	91-34	72-15	17-17	5-44	4-59	-36	-48	1-39	1.80
August	98-01	74-31	21-17	4-31	9-04	1-00	1-12	2-17	2.33
September	104-09	79-38	22-21	5-48	7-31	-50	-54	2-31	1.83
October	102-52	76-25	24-11	6-43	7-41	1-53	-26	3-13	2.37
November	99-08	74-16	22-07	6-26	6-19	-52	-28	5-34	2.42
December	100-20	75-09	23-02	6-25	6-16	1-59	-12	3-58	2.40

\*Meetings and study, work for organizations and care of persons not members of household, combined.  
†The three activities classed as community work, also social affairs, entertainments, and outings and sports.



## Appendix B

### CLASSIFICATION OF DATA

Since the cooperators' time records are in diary form, the investigator had the opportunity of classifying the activities as minutely and definitely as she chose. In order to make possible comparison of the results of this study with those carried on in other states, the classification form developed by the Bureau of Home Economics was used, and the set of rules for classifying individual items which was worked out by the Bureau was carefully followed. The classification form is given in detail in the tables in Appendix A.

#### DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. **Home**—the house, its immediate surroundings, and the farm, including not only the farm on which the house is located, but also other farm land in the vicinity being worked by the family.

2. **Homemaking**—includes all activities connected with the house-keeping and management of the homemaker's own household and the care of its members. This definition excludes some activities connected with the homemaker's home which are also connected with her personal life.

3. **Food**—includes all preparing, serving, clearing away of food, for family, guests, boarders, and hired help. Work connected with food produced on the place which would not have to be done if the food were bought, is charged to farm work.

4. **House**—includes all work connected with the house itself and its surroundings, equipment and furnishings, including cleaning and straightening, care of fires, lights, and water supply, making, installing and repairing, and any other work involved in putting and keeping the house in a healthful, serviceable, and attractive condition.

5. **Clothing and textiles**—includes making and remodeling and caring for clothing and textile furnishings.

6. **Care of members of household**—includes the actual, direct administration of personal care to members of the household, including physical care and such other direct personal care as teaching, supervising, counseling, managing, training, amusing, and entertaining.

7. **Homemaking management**—includes purchasing, planning, recording, supervising, and other management for the household and its members including all management connected with

- a. Food, house, clothing and textiles, even when done by the homemaker for herself alone.
- b. Care of members of household.
- c. The social, recreational, and other aspects of family life.

The definition also includes the management of the homemakers' personal investments.

8. **Homemaking going and returning**—includes going to places and returning home in connection with homemaking activities.

9. **Farm work**—includes all farm work done for the homemaker's own household or to sell, whether done on a farm, a small tract, in a back yard, or elsewhere. It excludes farm work done for pay.



*Mothers want more time for their children.*

10. **Other work**—includes work other than that defined as homemaking or farm work, for which the homemaker receives pay, and help which the homemaker gives to members of her household in work for which they receive pay.



**11. Personal activities**—includes

- a. Sleep and rest, physical care of self, leisure time activities, and any other personal activities of the homemaker.
- b. Purchasing, and other management connected with the personal life and needs of the homemaker, when clear that it was done for herself, and not as part of, or along with, homemaking.
- c. Going and returning in connection with personal activities.

**12. Miscellaneous**—includes

- a. All clearly specified activities that are not classified under homemaking, farm work, other work, or personal activities.
- b. Entries not clearly enough specified to be classified under homemaking, farm work, other work or personal activities.



*Farm women give a fifth of their working time to adding to the family income.*

**13. Help**—refers to help to the homemaker in her work of homemaking. It does not include homemaking activities which are not customarily considered as the homemaker's special job, nor does it include help received by the homemaker in her non-homemaking activities.





*The homemaker appreciates the elasticity of her work schedule.*

# Appendix C

## CITY, TOWN, AND VILLAGE HOMEMAKERS COMPARED

The main object in including in this study homemakers not living on farms was to describe an alternative situation for the farm homemaker. If she should move away from the farm how would her time distribution pattern be altered?

She may stay in the country, or move to a village, town or city. In the city she may live in a detached house or in an apartment. Does the time distribution of homemakers differ in these situations?

Twenty-seven or 17.5 percent of our non-country non-farm cooperators lived in Portland, 66 or 42.9 percent in communities of 2,500 to 12,000 population and 61 or 39.6 percent in communities of less than 2,500. These groups are called, respectively, "city," "town" and "village."

None of our cooperators lived where janitor service was provided or heat furnished from outside.

The town and village groups were much alike as to size of household and ages of children (Table XLV). City households were smaller, and a larger proportion of them had only young children.

TABLE XLV. SIZE OF HOUSEHOLD, CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD, AND RELATION OF MEALS TO LODGINGS, OF CITY, TOWN, AND VILLAGE HOMEMAKERS IN COMPARISON WITH THOSE OF COUNTRY NON-FARM AND FARM HOMEMAKERS

	City	Town	Village	Country non-farm	Farm
Size of household:					
Average persons per household.....	3.97	4.44	4.43	4.33	4.17
Proportion of small households (fewer than 3 persons) .....	3.7	15.1	11.5	15.5	19.8
Proportion of medium households (3 and fewer than 6 persons) .....	92.6	63.7	67.2	66.1	64.6
Proportion of large households (6 or more persons) .....	3.7	21.2	21.3	18.4	15.6
Children in households:					
Cooperators having children—percentage	96.3	83.3	82.0	78.9	69.1
Households with children:					
Average number children per household	1.69	2.29	2.24	2.48	2.37
Percentage with children under 6 only..	53.8	27.3	30.0	19.6	18.1
Percentage with children under 1 year..	7.6	7.3	6.0	10.7	8.0
Meals served for each lodging furnished....	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.9

Our cooperators, regardless of where they lived, did not differ appreciably in their time-spending habits. They did differ in the extent to which they had access to facilities for reducing time required for every-day tasks.

Village homemakers did more gardening and other work outside the home and had the longest average work period.

The three groups varied little in total homemaking. Meal preparation and clearing was less per person served for the city homemaker, partly



because she had fewer meals to prepare for each person lodged. Routine cleaning and care of fires were slightly less, partly because she was not so apt to have stoves to care for. Averages for washing and ironing were slightly less, because the city homemaker was not so apt to do this work at home (Table XLVI).

TABLE XLVI. PROPORTIONS OF CITY, TOWN, AND VILLAGE HOMEMAKERS SPENDING SOME TIME IN SELECTED ACTIVITIES, IN COMPARISON WITH SIMILAR PROPORTIONS OF COUNTRY NON-FARM AND FARM HOMEMAKERS

Activity	Proportion of homemakers— Country				
	City	Town	Village	non-farm	Farm
	%	%	%	%	%
Care of fires .....	63.0	80.3	80.3	80.3	84.4
Care of house surroundings .....	85.2	59.1	57.4	52.1	53.8
Washing .....	92.6	97.0	98.4	98.6	96.8
Ironing .....	88.9	97.0	93.4	95.7	94.2
Sewing .....	85.2	80.3	77.0	84.5	71.2
Food purchasing .....	85.2	84.8	63.9	64.8	43.7
Other purchasing .....	81.5	86.4	77.0	53.5	56.6
Gardening and fruit growing .....	29.6	28.8	37.7	46.5	64.9
Poultry work .....	.....	6.1	19.7	46.5	79.2
Dairy work .....	.....	10.6	13.1	36.6	85.4
Farm work (any kind) .....	29.6	39.4	50.8	71.8	97.2
Paid work .....	.....	9.1	18.0	14.1	14.6

The city homemaker spent the time saved in routine housekeeping mainly in other aspects of homemaking—sewing, care of house surroundings, care of members of the household, and purchasing for the household. The first three are activities upon which farm homemakers with well-equipped homes spent more time than those poorly equipped for work (Table XLVII).

TABLE XLVII. TIME EXPENDITURES OF HOMEMAKERS, AND SIZE OF COMMUNITY

Activity	Group average—time per week— Country				
	City	Town	Village	non-farm	Farm
	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.	Hr.-Min.
All work .....	52-34	54-38	56-05	60-48	63-44
All homemaking .....	51-46	52-15	50-37	54-51	51-31
Other work than homemaking .....	-48	2-23	5-28	5-57	12-10
Care of fires .....	-20	-44	-41	-53	-56
Care of house surroundings .....	1-58	-49	1-06	1-00	1-00
Daily and weekly cleaning .....	5-47	6-44	6-23	7-12	6-12
Washing .....	2-54	3-21	3-03	3-40	3-31
Ironing .....	2-08	2-30	2-14	2-22	2-01
Sewing .....	4-17	3-33	3-05	4-06	3-06
Purchasing for the household .....	2-25	1-42	1-32	1-29	-59
Care of members of household .....	9-26	6-32	5-03	5-02	3-49
Meal preparation and clearing .....	15-23	20-04	19-25	21-27	22-58



## Appendix D

### COMPARISONS WITH OTHER STUDIES

**Length of work period.** The work periods of Oregon rural homemakers were somewhat longer than those of rural groups cooperating with the Bureau of Home Economics in its study of the "Use of Time by Homemakers."

TABLE XLVIII. LENGTH OF WORK PERIOD OF RURAL COOPERATORS IN THE OREGON TIME STUDY AND IN THAT OF THE BUREAU OF HOME ECONOMICS

Group	Oregon Cooperators		Bur. of H. E.—U. S. Dept. of Agric. Cooperators		Difference —average per day (7-day week)
	Number	Average time per week at work <i>Hr.-Min.</i>	Number	Average time per week at work <i>Hr.-Min.</i>	
Farm .....	288	63-44	642	61-26	20
Country non-farm .....	71	60-48	151	57-35	28
Village .....	61	56-05	136	54-24	14

A number of studies have been made in which the length of the work day is based on estimates of farm homemakers. The States Relations Survey of 1919 resulted in a summer average for Oregon farm homemakers of 13 hours and a winter average of 9.4 hours a day. Comparable data from this study are 10.3 hours and 9.6 hours respectively.

Studies of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, which include 2,000 farm homemakers in eastern and southern states, give an average work day, exclusive of Sunday, of 11 hours. Our farm cooperators averaged 9.7 hours, exclusive of Sunday.

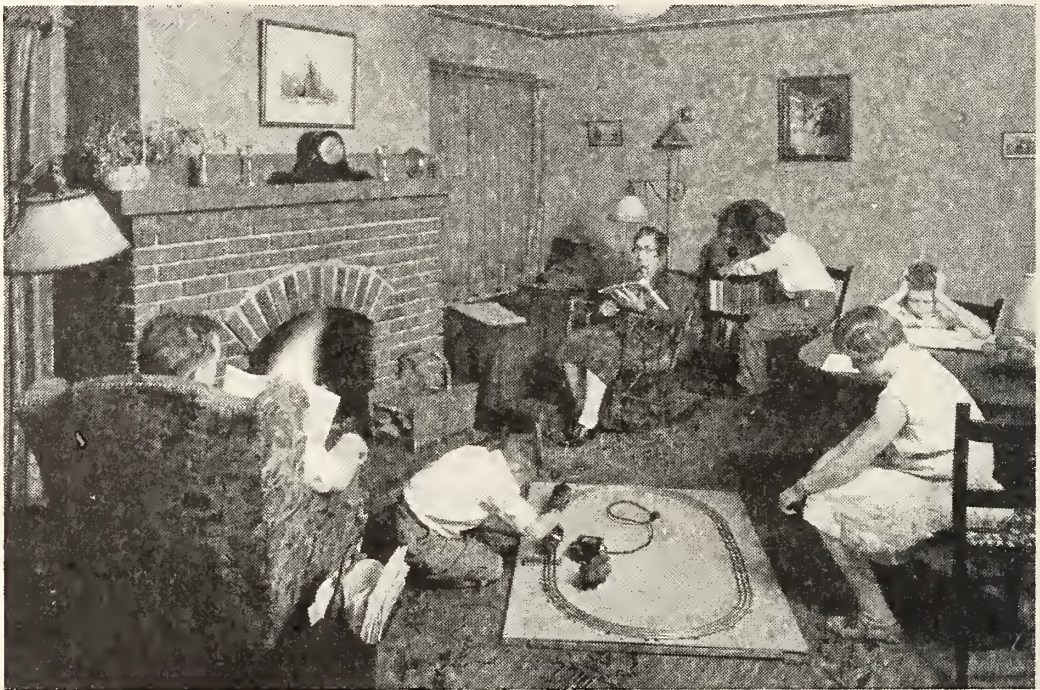
Data for work periods based on records are for "typical" weeks. Those based on estimates include non-typical weeks. Our experience in obtaining records indicated that non-typical weeks are most frequent during the season of greatest farm activity. It would seem therefore that an average of all the weeks of the year would be higher than the average of "typical" weeks which our records afford us.

**Distribution of work period, and time given to specific tasks.** The similarity between Oregon homemakers and those of other states is apparently the result of the adherence to a common pattern of time spending, and of the similarity in kind and amount of help, equipment of houses, and use of commercial services. We find the same differences between the farm and town homemakers in Idaho, for example, as we noted in Oregon. Homemaking time is distributed among its major divisions in much the same fashion. We find homemakers in other states spending practically the same time on the commoner household duties, such as laundering and mending, as our cooperators.





*Spare time is used to beautify homes.*



*The ideal farm provides a life as well as a living.*



REFERENCES—RECORDS OR ESTIMATES OF USE OF  
TIME BY HOMEMAKERS

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## UNPUBLISHED DATA

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